

February 7, 2024 Meeting - 7pm
Elmhurst University

**"Fair Pay and Economic Equity
for Women in Illinois"**

Guest Speaker:

Susana A. Mendoza, Illinois Comptroller



All are welcome to join the AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch program on Wednesday, February 7, at 7 PM at Elmhurst University to hear Illinois Comptroller Susanna Mendoza speak about the status of Fair Pay and Economic Equity for Women in the State of Illinois. This program will be live and virtual with full details coming by the end of January.

Susana A. Mendoza became the first Hispanic independently elected to statewide office in Illinois in 2016. She was re-elected in 2022 as the highest overall vote getter in Illinois. She has transformed the Illinois Office of Comptroller, leading Illinois to a complete and transparent financial turnaround. She eliminated the \$17 billion backlog, without using federal ARPA stimulus funds and has led the charge to rebuild the state's rainy-day fund to a record high of over \$2 billion.

Comptroller Mendoza's work successfully managing the state's finances through historic crises, earned her the distinction of becoming the first statewide Democrat to ever be endorsed by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. Her new Chicago City Vehicle Sticker program was awarded a 2015 "Bright Idea Award" from Harvard University.

Starting as the youngest member of the 92nd Illinois General Assembly, Susana was routinely recognized for her leadership in the areas of social services, education, job creation, law enforcement, and animal welfare.

Program updates will be posted on: <https://elmhurstarea-il.aauw.net/>

Questions should be directed to: Susan Boyd, Co-Chair, Programs: boyd.susan.ml@gmail.com

BRANCH CALENDAR

No Board Meeting in January

January 23 - 7 pm
Half the Sky Study Group
"Afghan Families Coming to the US"
Cheryl Kopecky, Speaker

Zoom Meeting



January 25 - 1 pm
Book Discussion Group
"Daughters of the Flower Garden"
by Zhuqing Li
Discussion Leader: Carol Rounds
Elmhurst Public Library

February 7 - 7 pm
"Fair Pay & Economic Equity for Women in Illinois"
Susana Mendoza, State of Illinois Comptroller
Elmhurst University

March 12 - 7-8:00 pm
"Creating Allyship"
Dr. Joe DeGruy, Leader
Mary E. Kies Recreational Center, Centennial Park

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Branch Members:

2023 has come to an end. Hopefully, everyone enjoyed a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season. It was wonderful seeing many of you at Marcia Goltermann's lovely home for our Annual Holiday Party on December 6th. It was fun trying the various treats you brought and being able to chat with many of you.

I am looking forward to attending our February 7th Meeting at the University with guest speaker Susana E. Menendez who will discuss "Fair Pay and Economic Equity for Women in Illinois".

During the past year we had a successful Used Book Sale despite not having an ideal location. We had a shorter time but many of you contributed many hours of work each week, having fun doing it. We loaded up every "borrowed" table in three Church rooms with wonderful donated books! As a result, we will be giving out three scholarships this year....Two \$3,500 Scholarships for returning students and one \$1,000 Scholarship for a "Dare-to-Dream" high school student. We also have donated \$6,280.83 to AAUW National for The Greatest Need Fund. We again thank Carolyn Heiney and Jennifer Jordan for their hard work to organize this important fund raiser.

Wishing you every blessing in the New Year!

Moirra Murray
President

MEMBERSHIP

Hope you are all looking forward to our February meeting with an address by Susana Mendoza.

What a great opportunity this meeting is to grow the Elmhurst AAUW branch! Please help us spread news about our event and invite friends, neighbors and work colleagues to hear this timely presentation -- and to learn about AAUW.

The Programs Committee developed a fabulous line up of presentations for us this year. Let's get more of the outstanding women in our community involved with our group. We added 10 women to our roster this year, help us grow even more in 2024!

HALF THE SKY

January 23, 2024 Zoom Meeting (7-9pm)

Half the Sky will hold a special session about **Afghan families that have come to the USA** on **Tuesday, January 23 at 7:00 pm**. Two Afghan families who have made it to the USA. Cheryl Kopecky will provide an overview of one family's experiences. Tsue Ostermann and her grandson will share details of another family.

Please note that you will receive an invitation to the ZOOM from Charlie Laliberte the morning of TUESDAY Jan 23. Email me <bettylaliberte2007@gmail.com> if you have not received an invite before the 7pm meeting.

--Betty Laliberte

FUTURE AAUW MEETING DATES:

March 6, 2024 - 7 PM - Women's History Month

The Elmhurst Public Library cosponsors this program to celebrate National Women's History Month. Speaker to be announced.

April 3, 2024 - 7 pm - Local Campaigns 101

Learn how to educate yourself and others to become better local citizens. Diane Lans-Kautz will teach us more than the basics about how successful local elections are planned and implemented. Have things changed? Oh yes! The meeting will be held at the Elmhurst Public Library.

Financial Report

Jennifer Jordan
Director of Finance

December 31, 2023

<u>US Bank</u>	
Conferences Account	\$1,332.58
Fundraiser Account	4,359.52
General Account	<u>3,204.85</u>
Total US Bank	\$8,896.95
<u>CD at US Bank</u>	
CD Fundraiser Account	\$7,055.08
CD General Account	<u>6,070.55</u>
Total CD at US Bank	\$13,152.88
Total at US Bank	\$22,049.83

At the November 1st business meeting, the branch approved the donation of \$6,280.83 to AAUW National



based on the proceeds from this summer's used book sale. The donation was sent to AAUW National in November, and the bank balances in this newsletter reflect this.

Member Vote on Amendments to National AAUW Bylaws

Pat O'Dwyer, Director of Bylaws & Policies

Please be alerted to an email message sent from the AAUW National Office to all members on January 16, 2024. This message begins the informational lead-up to the 2024 National Election process giving members the opportunity and responsibility to vote on amendments to the national Bylaws. The message text with key dates is copied below.

As a valued member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), your participation is crucial in shaping our future. The deadline to cast your vote on the important amendments to the national bylaws is fast approaching, and we need your voice to be heard!

These amendments, recommended by the AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee, aim to open membership and bring fresh perspectives to our organization. Remember, as a member, you hold the power to influence these changes.

Comments can be submitted until Friday, January 26 at 5:00 pm ET.

Here are the key dates you need to keep in mind:

- January 26 | Comment period closes at 5:00 pm ET
- April 3 | Voting begins (online voting is highly recommended)
- May 15 | Online voting concludes at 12:00 pm ET with results to be announced online.

Don't miss this opportunity to make your opinion count. Your comments and vote are instrumental in guiding the direction of AAUW.

Your involvement is what makes AAUW a powerful community. Let's work together towards a brighter future for our organization. We eagerly await your input and appreciate your prompt response.

Holiday Party - 2023

The Annual AAUW Holiday Party was held on Wednesday, December 6th, at the home of Marcia Goltermann. And a fine time was held by all!





Thanks again, Marcia. Beautiful home, great party!

“Creating Allyship” Program

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 - 7-8 pm

Mary E. Kies Recreational Center, Multipurpose Room, Centennial Park

151 E. St. Charles Road, Elmhurst (1 block east of York Road ; parking available on-site).

Join us for “Creating Allyship,” a program co-sponsored by the Elmhurst Area Branch of the American

Association of University Women, ComeUnity, and the Elmhurst Park District, on Tuesday, March 12, at 7 pm. The program will feature a short film, "Creating Allyship," in which author and activist Dr. Joy DeGruy shares an example of "allyship," when her lighter skinned sister-in-law recognized and confronted discriminatory behavior toward Dr. DeGruy as an ally. Discussion in small groups will follow.

This program is free; registration is required and is open now. Register by calling the Elmhurst Park District at (630) 993-8193.

--Elizabeth Neill, DEI Study Group Chair



IN MEMORIAM

Marjorie Patterson Barger (1939-2024)

We are sad to advise that Marjorie Patterson Barger, age 84, passed away January 3rd, 2024. She graduated from Elmhurst University, was a dedicated teacher of 25 years, and a ten-year member of the AAUW.

Marjorie was born on January 6th, 1939 in Johnston City, IL was married to the late Terry R. Barger of 32 years. Loving mother of Richard T. Barger and Lori Barger Catalano. Adored grandmother of Sarah (Michael Pennett) Catalano, Rachel (Cole Hofmann) Barger-Hofmann, Emily Catalano, and Marjorie Catalano. Our sincere condolences to her friends and family. Memorial services were held on January 6.

