



American Association of
University Women
AAUW Austin (Texas) Branch

**EQUAL
PAY
ADVOCACY
DAY
April 24
2014**



Where: Texas State Capitol | 1100 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701

When: 1:00 P.M. on April 24, 2014

By 2014 equity for women should be a thing of the past. But it isn't. So, now we must work together and amplify our voices in support of equity for Texas women and their families.

1:00 PM—Gather on the Capitol Steps South for the Equal Pay for Texas Women Rally and presentation of AAUW Texas “Stand Up for Texas Women and Families” petition to Gov. Perry.

2:15 PM—“How to Effectively Lobby Your State and National Legislators” by Rep. Donna Howard

3:15 PM—Lobby Legislative Offices for Texas State Fair Pay Act

5:30 PM—Equal Pay Cocktails & Convos at Baby Acapulco's
(1628 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, TX 78704)

***Wear the color red to show your support for
equal pay for women!***

For more information contact: Melodía Gutiérrez |
gutierrezm@aauw.org | 801.918.6832



April Calendar of Branch Activities

April 2, 3 p.m. Movie & Dinner. Call Lois Shaevel at 512.266.0273 for specific details.

April 4, 10 a.m. First Friday Book Review. Hyde Park Church of Christ. 911: *Was There an Alternative?* by Noam Chomsky. Reviewer: Dr. Delia Quintanilla. Chair: Gayle Smith (512.345.5585).

April 4, 1-3 p.m. Board Meeting. Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave.

April 7, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Contemporary Literature. Old Quarry BL. *The Essential Engineer* by Henry Petroski. Discussion leader: Karen Jordahl. Chair: Fern Chester, 512.345.1102.

April 12, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Branch Meeting. Complete information on p. 4.

April 14, 10:30 a.m. SW Book Group. *Lean In* by Sheryl Sandberg. Hostess is Cherie Wilson (9302 Lauralan Drive, 78736). Facilitator is Dixie Schurle. Chair: Inés Garcia, 512.444.5643.

April 15, 11 a.m. Out to Lunch. Quality Seafood (5621 Airport Boulevard). RSVP required. Chair: Ruth Falck (512.550.6449 or ruthfalck@yahoo.com).

April 16. Creative Stitchery. Hostess: Lynn Cooksey (512.477.2774); co-hostess: Fern Chester (512.345.1102).

April 17, 6:30 p.m. Culture & Cuisine. Hostess: Lynn Cooksey; 2208 Matthews Drive, 78703. Co-hostess: Carol Fritz. Chair: Anneliese Ellerton (512.241.8425).

April 23, 4 p.m. Fourth Wednesday Bridge. Contact Sara Ezell (512.343.8494).

FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

We gave you the month of March off from a formal branch meeting; although we had lots of community events to offer in the last newsletter (not including SXSW). How much inspiration I experienced that first week of March!! World Day of Prayer program with Church Woman United (thanks to Marsha Endahl Kramer); seeing diverse SXSW fans at the airport and all over town; UNA-Austin dinner celebrating “Equality for Women is Progress for All” (like Leader Pelosi’s message last summer with an international panel and flavor); Ten Thousand Villages celebrating International Woman’s Day by recognizing Austin women as Change-makers (for which we nominated two of our great members); and meeting the Organizing for Action team with Carol Fritz, sharing some AAUW goals (e.g. protecting women’s rights, promoting women’s economic security and advancing women’s leadership).

April will be another busy month with our annual branch business meeting on the 12th, religious celebrations, the AAUW-TX biennial convention, and two other REALLY BIG events at which I hope to see many of y’all! Public Policy Chair Carol Fritz and our tri-state organizer Melodía Gutiérrez, have arranged a special day at the Capitol on the 24th. The FUNdraising committee has been planning and waiting for a date with TUGG for a film, with the additional benefit of collecting contributions to a national fellowship fund in honor of film fan Governor Ann Richards. Bring your friends and family, and invite all the film and yoga fans that you know to come see *YOGAWOMAN* on April 29th at the Marchesa. Please print page 4 to share with those folks. Note that even if you cannot attend the film, you can contribute online at <http://www.tugg.com/events/8034>.



Anita Knight
Branch President 2012-2014
dbasknight@aol.com
512.329.8575

April Calendar of Branch Activities

(continued from preceding page)

April 24, Road To Convention, AAUW TX Stand Up for TX Women & Families Austin Rally. Meet on the south steps of the Capitol at 1 p.m. Wear red!

April 25, 8 a.m. Hiking Group. Mueller Lake Park and planning session. Leader: Beverly Locklin. Contacts: Ginny Tannebring (512.922.9645 or ginnyz@sbcglobal.net) or Beverly Locklin (512.343.0782 or blocklin@austin.rr.com).

April 25-27. AAUW Texas State Convention. Hurst Conference Center; 1601 Campus Drive Hurst; TX 76054. <http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/events-projects/events/2014-state-convention/>

April 29, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Yoga Woman Branch Fund-raiser. The Marchesa, 6406 N IH 35 Suite 3100, Austin. Tickets \$15 each at <http://www.tugg.com/events/8034>.

April 30, 10:00 a.m. Art Tour. Hosts: Sally Scott and Betty Owen. A visit with ceramicist Claudia Reese. Cera-Mix Studio; 709 Tumbleweed Trail North; Austin, TX 78733. (512.263.5018). Lunch: Mimi's; 12613 Galleria Circle; Bee Cave, Texas. (512.263.9731). RSVP: 512.328.0474 or zdramamom@austin.rr.com.

Every Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Bridge at the Senior Center. Call Dorothy Ramsey (512.442.3841) for more information.

May 3, 6:30 p.m. PEARS. A Night of Broadway: cocktails, conversation, hors d'oeuvres, desserts & Broadway singing thanks to Tom Bauer, our pianist, Lilac Bauer, singer and conductor extraordinaire. Hosted by Hugh & Marsha Endahl Kramer. RSVP by April 27 to Marsha at HughMarsha@aol.com or 512.906.6566.

APRIL 12 BRANCH MEETING

The Mission In Action and annual Branch business meeting will take place on Saturday, April 12, at 10 a.m. We will have several guests from the three primary organizations we are supporting and promoting. The highlight of the event will be a Voting Rights Act presentation by the four high school girls who participated in the national competition and who also received recognition from the U.S. Congress for their work. We will hear from Mainspring Schools' Director Rudi Andrus and two staff members, Jennifer Garcia and Kelly Cavanaugh, who received scholarships from the Branch. Then, Laura Donnelly-Gonzalez, founder of Latinitas, will tell us more about *College Chica*, *Business Chica*, and summer camps. Lastly, we will have the opportunity to meet the recipient of the Miriam Tormollan Scholarship, Bonnie Claire Duren, who is a CREW Intern for the After School Program at Girlstart. She will be introduced by Girlstart liaison **Lilac Bauer**. The business meeting will follow the program.



The April meeting will be at the University of Phoenix located at 10801-2 North MOPAC. Driving north or south on MOPAC take the Braker exit. From the south, cross over Braker Lane going straight (north) and turn right into the second entrance to Braker Point (Building 2). Traveling from the north, turn left onto Braker Lane, then left again onto the access road to MOPAC North, and take the second exit into Braker Point (Building 2). **There is plenty of parking, especially on the north side of the building {{There are NO STEPS—accessible—on the south side of the building.}} We can use the visitor 2-hour parking. Everyone should take the elevator to the 3rd floor and go left into Room 314-315.** Questions about the location? Email or call **Lilac Bauer** at la_azucena@hotmail.com; 512.743.6338

Our brunch will be catered by Corner Bakery, and we will have a choice between (a) Scrambled Platter {{Eggs/Sausage/Bacon/Croissants}} or (b) Yogurt Parfait {{Yogurt/Granola/Fruit}}. The cost for the brunch is \$15 and includes a fruit platter and beverages. When you make your reservation, be sure to include your choice of the Scrambled Platter or the Yogurt Parfait!



To make a reservation please call Diane Brewer at 512.328.0474 or email her at zdramamom@austin.rr.com by Thursday, April 10. Don't forget to include your buffet choice, Scrambled Platter or Yogurt Parfait!

YOGAWOMAN coming soon to a theater near you!

Presented by the Austin Branch of AAUW

Film screening benefits the Ann Richards American Fellowship Fund

Tuesday, April 29, 2014, 6:30-9:30 PM

at The Marchesa, 6406 N I H 35 Suite 3100, Austin



Award winning documentary *Yogawoman* is a groundbreaking film that captures this fascinating time of awakening female power. It features 50 of 'the most inspiring' yoga teachers from around the world. Yoga was brought to the west from India by a lineage of male teachers. Now there's a generation of women who are leading the way. They're strong, they're inspiring, and they're radically changing people's lives. From the busy streets of Manhattan to the dusty slums of Kenya, from the golden beaches of Australia to the serene piazzas of Italy, *Yogawoman* (narrated by Annette Bening) uncovers a global phenomenon that has changed the face of yoga forever.

Tickets \$15 each at <http://www.tugg.com/events/8034>

Bring your friends and family, and join local film and yoga fans. Come early for a short stretch yoga class before the film, with discussion afterwards!

We hope you enjoy this movie about powerful women and empowering women! You can also contribute online to support other powerful women achieve their goals.

Proceeds benefit the Ann Richards American Fellowship Fund supporting women doctoral candidates across the country. Established by AAUW-Texas in 2008, this fund honors former Governor Ann Richards, whose career as teacher, elected official and advocate embodied AAUW's mission of empowering women across the globe. In addition to paving the way for women, Ann Richards **loved the movies!** She focused a spotlight on film as a creative and economic engine for Texas by offering incentives for these industries to operate in Texas and by formally establishing the film and music programs under the auspices of the Governor's Office.

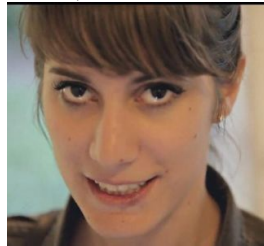
About AAUW:

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls, through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Since its founding in 1881, AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community.

March Madness has come and gone with its Mardi Gras, SXSW festivals, spring break, basketball hoopla, numerous events celebrating our causes, and St. Paddy's Day. Adding to that we have had wild winds, chaotic temperatures, pollen, dust, a little rain, and lots of birds! And, speaking of birds, it is time for all you early birds to submit dues for the coming membership year, 2014-2015.

Please welcome early bird and newest member, **Lucia Benavides**, who is member 189, and the first to submit her dues for the coming year. Lucia came to our attention while working on a feature about valued member **Linda Young**, for the *Austin American Statesman*. <<http://www.statesman.com/news/lifestyles/after-40-years-linda-young-still-fights-for-womens/nfGrK/>>

Lucia was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and is interning with the *Statesman* as she works toward her master's in journalism, which she hopes to complete in 2015. Lucia was drawn to both our purpose and our missions, which include Latinitas, a cause for which Lucia has already



volunteered and continues to assist. Lucia graduated from St. Edwards University in 2010, with a B.A. in sociology, and in 2013, entered UT's School of Journalism which led to her internship. She lives in South Austin at 7136 Ridge Oak Road, Austin, TX 78749-1960; phone 512.288.4841, and cell 512.300.9282; email: lbenavides@utexas.edu. Lucia is very musical and enjoys singing, playing the guitar, ukelele, piano, and composing her own songs. This working writer has been published in the *New Literati*, 2010 at St. Ed's; *Austin Monthly*; and the *Statesman*. She joins the growing number of active, committed, professional young women who have joined our ranks this year. We are lucky to have her! I know **Lilac Bauer** is thrilled to have a current volunteer for Latinitas join us.

In kudos from Washington, Linda Maatz, AAUW Vice President of Government Relations, had this to say about up and coming Priya and Kavya Ramamoorthy, now high school students, aiming for STEM careers under the guidance of AAUW member/mom **Janani Janakiraman** and member/sister **Divya Ramamoorthy**:

I got my socks knocked off in inspiration recently, and I want to share it with you. As you may know, AAUW launched a "Title IX Champions Award" for members who are advancing Title IX's mission of equity for women and girls in education. This week, we recognized Priya and Kavya Ramamoorthy, 16-year-old sisters in Texas.

It's an amazing story – so great that it's also our "Cheer of the Week." When they were in eighth grade, the sisters were looking for a project for a National History Day competition. A classmate's cousin told them that her swim team didn't get the same opportunities as the boys' team. The girls decided to make their project about sex discrimination in school, and they contacted AAUW for ideas and resources. The website they created for the competition won first prize in the Junior Website Category. During their victory trip to Washington, D.C., to collect the medal, they toured AAUW, and I got the chance to meet them as well as their very proud parents and teacher.

Janani and her friends, now fellow members **Ranjani Vaidyanathan** and **Seetha Mahadevan**, have all three encouraged their daughters Priya and Kavya Ramamoorthy, plus Maanasa Nathan and Smrithi Mahadevan in the above-mentioned project which brought victory to all four girls in the National History Day competition.

Alas, our membership year is over at the end of June, but all of you who take the time to submit your dues and renewal applications early become AAUW *stars* in my book! It is so easy to renew. One can download the form newsletter editor **Mary Ellen Scribner** sent to you, pick up one at the next branch meeting, or go to austin.tx.aauw.net, click on 'Join Us,' at the top of the page, then scroll down to renewal, look for the several dues options, form, and methods of payment. Pay Pal is very easy to do, but please add a dollar to your submission for our costs. You may also simply mail a check to me, **Diane Brewer**, 910 Dartmoor Drive, Austin, TX 78746-5163. Please do not send anything to the P. O. box as it is not checked on a daily basis.

You can send me your dues once you have looked at your entry in the directory for corrections, but we would like for you to complete the renewal form for a couple of reasons.

First, look at the options to give to our important national funds. You can also opt to help out the Branch with expenses, and/or donate to Mainspring Schools, GirlStart, and Latinitas. Your donations to these three branch causes are tax deductible as is \$46 of the \$49 you pay to national for dues. Your gifts to our causes really make a difference. Most of us will pay \$75 for our national, state, and local dues, plus any donations. Student affiliates pay \$25, lifetime members have already paid national dues in a lump sum, so they need only pay \$26 plus any donations. Honorary members, our treasured members of over 50 years, pay nothing! We rejoice in your continued affiliation and remarkable lives.

Second, please take the time to complete the questions about the branch. If you are honorary, we really want your feedback too. If you pick up a hard copy from me, the questions will be on the back.

BRANCH BUSINESS

(Membership continued from previous page)

Your opinions matter as we forge another year with all the decisions we board members must make on your behalf.

Thank you in advance for taking care of your dues in a timely manner. The most difficult aspect of membership responsibilities is contacting individuals for dues over the summer. I hope to see everyone in April at our Branch meeting! Bring your ideas and checkbooks to renew your membership!

Diane Brewer
Membership Vice President 2012-2014
zdramamom@austin.rr.com or 512.328.0474

MAINSRING SCHOOLS NEWS



The prestigious National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) has recognized Mainspring Schools as a Center of Excellence! Executive Director Rudi Andrus writes to Austin AAUW: "Only 6% of centers in the nation attain this distinction, and we are proud to announce that Mainspring scored 100 in every area of our reaccreditation except one, where we scored a 92 (still an 'A!'). Mainspring Schools has been continuously accredited by NAEYC since the mid-1980s, with the process of reaccreditation happening every 5 years. This is wonderful news for the hardworking staff at Mainspring...but, it's even better news for the children of Mainspring. It says we really are doing the things most likely to show good outcomes for them. A heartfelt 'Thank You' for your support through it all!"

The April Branch meeting will provide members the opportunity to hear directly from Rudi and the two scholarship recipients just how much AAUW support has meant to them. (See page 3) **Betty Owen**, Mainsprings liaison, distributed a "wish list" from Mainspring teachers at the February meeting, and now she asks that we bring our donations to the April meeting. If you didn't get a copy of the list but still want to make a donation, please call Betty for suggestions. Always prominent on the list are battery chargers and

rechargeable batteries (AA), underwear for boys and girls, and inexpensive unisex shorts for use in case of accidents. Volunteers to read to the children, help with art work, etc. are also greatly appreciated.

Betty Owen
Mainspring Schools Liaison
512.444.6015

Mainspring Schools Annual Fundraiser & Luncheon *Come Grow with Me!*

WHO: You and 300 other caring people in ATX

WHAT: Mainspring Schools Annual Luncheon

WHERE: Shoal Crossings Event Center 8611 North Mopac - onsite free parking

WHEN: Thursday, April 3, 2014, 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$75

WHY: Close the "School Readiness Gap" for disadvantaged children

<http://www.mainspringschools.org/events.html>

Austin Woman's Federated Club Fundraiser for UT/
Austin Scholarship Fund
Charity Spring Fashion Show, hosted by CHICO's
Chez Zee American Bistro
Monday, April 21 <> 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The cost is \$35 and reservations can be made by calling Dixie Gilley 512.477.5127. Tickets available through members of Austin Women's Federated Club.

BRANCH BUSINESS

ROAD SHOW for EQUAL PAY and OTHER WOMEN'S ISSUES

April 24th will be an exciting day not just for members of the Austin Branch but for AAUW members from across Texas as we gather in Austin on the steps of the Capitol at 1:00 p.m. on the way to Hurst for the state convention! Texas AAUW organizer Melodía Gutiérrez has arranged for media coverage as we present our women's issues petitions, including equal pay for women to a representative from the governor's office. Due to the pressure of other events, the Governor himself will not be able to attend.

All Branch members are urged to attend this special event whether or not they are going to the convention. We've invited members of other women's groups and Texas legislators to join us. At 2:00 p.m. Rep. Donna Howard will brief us on "What to Do When Visiting Legislators." Then, we're off to visit offices and present everyone with a fact sheet about AAUW interests. We owe special thanks to Rep. Elliott Naishtat for obtaining permission for us to gather on the Capitol Steps and for obtaining a hearing room as a meeting place for various activities. Please contact me if you plan to attend any of these activities.

Later in the afternoon we expect to have some legislators drop in for a few minutes to meet us as a group. Afterward, Melodia has arranged a celebration with purple margaritas at Baby Acapulco's. Members of affiliated student groups are invited to mingle with us. Dinner plans, for those who wish, are in the works.

Dr. Carol Fritz
Public Policy Chair
bearcat@austin.rr.com
512.837.6835



April 22
Do something
special for
Planet Earth
today!

LATINITAS & GIRLSTART

Latinitas Spring Break Camp

Thanks to **Ruth Rubio, Sylvia Garcia, Inés Garcia, Anita Knight, and Shiphrah Meditz** for giving of their time to assist at this camp just for teenagers! It was a great time for about a dozen teenagers during spring break as they worked with media and technology at the new Latinitas headquarters at 4926 E. Cesar Chavez Street, and took field trips to South by Southwest activities. The highlight of the week was the trip to the Girls Rock Camp concert at the Cherrywood Coffee House and open house for the parents that Friday afternoon.

Girlstart Planetarium "Star Party"

Our March Star Party had to be postponed due to the sleet and icy weather, but it is on for Tuesday, May 6 at 10-12 a.m.! Anyone who missed out on signing up in March, please sign up for May at the April 12 "Mission in Action" Branch Meeting.

We have enough donations to order the pencils for the *Girls in STEM Conference* goodie bags and a good start on raising money for a scholarship fund for the CREW interns who implement the hands-on after school program. Thank you for your donations!

See you at the Star Party at Girlstart STEM Center at 1400 Anderson Lane (beside Redeemer Lutheran Church) at 10 a.m. on May 6th. All are welcome!

Volunteers needed:

April 4 Girlstart STEM Conference Support

Needed: Ten volunteers on Friday, April 4, noon-2 p.m. at the STEM Center, 1400 W. Anderson Lane. We will be at Girlstart stuffing the goodie bags for the Girlstart STEM Conference.

April 26 (1/2 day) Latinitas Business Chica Conference

Needed: Volunteers for registration and possibly break-out sessions. Hosted by the McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas.

Lilac Bauer
Girlstart/Latinitas Liaison
la_azucena@hotmail.com
512.743.6338