

AAUW Austin, TX Branch
 Sunday, Dec. 2nd
 3-5:00 PM

Congregation Beth Israel
 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd.
 Smith Hall

EVITE coming!

RSVP optional to Jean Bessent
 (jeanbessent@gmail.com or
 512-328-2709)



Page 2

Calendar

Page 3

BUZZzzz

Pages 4-5

AAUW & Women in Action

NEW Mission. To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

AAUW Austin Winter SOCIAL

Celebrate **Multicultural** Friendships with **Music** and Holiday **Treats**

Bring a Friend

- An RSVP is not required but would be greatly appreciated on the evite invitation.
- Look for AAUW signage at entrance to parking lot and to the correct building entrance. The Congregation Beth Israel complex is located on Shoal Creek Blvd. between 38th and 39th Streets. The entrance to the parking lot is not the beautiful circular drive in front of the building but a smaller one to the left which will be marked by an AAUW Austin sign. The short driveway leads directly into the parking lot and from there, more AAUW signage will mark the walk to the building entrance where AAUW greeters will be waiting. Of course those less mobile can be dropped off at the circular drive closer to the entrance to the building.
- Prepared food is planned, but members are invited to bring their traditional holiday treats and favorite snacks if they would like to share that.



*Piano music by Blake Maples,
 music producer, composer*



Look for AAUW signage

DECEMBER CALENDAR

HIKING GROUP

Dec. 1 Trail of Lights Fun Run
<https://austintrailoflights.org/>
 Leader: Linda Welsh

Dec. 2 **Branch Monthly Program – see page 1**

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

Dec. 3 *A Man Called Ove*
 7:15 PM Author: Fredrik Blackman
 Reviewer: Carol Fritz

NEW AAUW WINE TASTERS

Dec. 6 Holiday Sparkle from around the
 7:00 PM world: German Sekt, Cava, Cremants
 from France, and Franciacorta
 Hostess: Gail Boston

FIRST FRIDAY BOOK REVIEW

Dec. 7 Lunch out

PEARS

Dec. 8 Holiday Potluck Party
 5:30 PM Mary Francis & David Rogerson's home
 2022 Goodrich Avenue

OUT TO LUNCH

Dec. 8 Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones Drive
 11:15 AM (noted for holiday gaiety and bakery!)
 Planner: Sara Ezell
 512-454-5406, chez-zee.com

SW BOOK GROUP

Dec. 10 *Less*
 10:30 AM Author: Andrew Sean Greer
 Hostess: Debbie Starr
 Facilitator: Jennifer Swenson

CENTRAL BOOK GROUP

Dec. 10 *The Nightingale: A Novel*
 10:30 AM Author: Kristin Hannah
 Hostess: Mary Humke
 Facilitator: Shelley Bjorkman

CREATIVE STITCHERY

Dec. 21 Hyde Park Bar & Grill, 4206 Duval St.
 11:00 AM Hostess: Beverly Locklin

ART TOURS, CULTURE & CUISINE, MYSTERY INTEREST GROUP
All on hiatus – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MORE things to do this month:

Dec. 1 DeSTEMber STEM Extravaganza
 9:30-noon at Girlstart STEM Center,
 Free and everyone welcome. See page 4.

Dec. 9 AAUW Georgetown Holiday Tea
 2-4:00 PM at member's home in Georgetown
 RSVP by Dec 5 to Pat Rehm at
georgetown.aauw@gmail.com

Gift-wrapping at Barnes & Noble. Sign up for a shift
 at your convenience. Our tips go to AAUW FUNDS.
 See page 4.

CALL to volunteer or suggest a great candidate for
 elected branch officer to the Nominating Committee:
**Connie Munoz, Judy Reinhart, Marina Rivers, Ruth
 Rubio, and Anita Knight.**

Interested in **PUBLIC POLICY??** - see page 3.

From The Office of Presidential Correspondence: a
 thank you for contacting the White House.
*"President Donald J. Trump believes the strength of
 our country lies in the spirit of the American people
 and their willingness to stay informed and get
 involved. President Trump appreciates you taking the
 time to reach out."*

Why not subscribe to the "1600 Daily" at
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/1600daily/>
 Of course, you may also follow President Trump and
 the White House on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter,
 and YouTube.

You can also subscribe to *Washington Update*,
 AAUW's free, members-only weekly e-bulletin on
 federal policy issues. Sign up at
[http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/web/co
 mmon/public/signup?signup_page KEY=7067&killorg
 =True](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=7067&killorg=True)



Priya Ramamoorthy, UT student in health sciences, (4th from left in photo below), will be spending next summer in Lebanon working with the International and Lebanese Red Cross to implement a project for Women's Hygiene. After a highly competitive process, she was chosen to be on one of the 7 interdisciplinary teams to receive up to \$25,000 and fully funded travel to implement research, social impact and entrepreneurship projects in 7 regions across the world next summer.

(<https://news.utexas.edu/2018/10/18/president-s-award-for-global-learning-teams-selected/>).



YOU can help Colorado River Alliance (CRA) spread the word about their internships to your friends, your networks, on social media, etc. Here's a message from CRA.....

Hello Students!

Ready for an internship that's life-changing? Our work with Central Texas students is laying the foundation for a new generation of environmental stewards and scientists -- and we need your help! Internships with the Colorado River Alliance are powerful professional development experiences. Students interested in applying for an internship should apply online as soon as possible.

For information and to apply:

<https://coloradoriver.org/volunteering-internships/>. For questions, email brent@coloradoriver.org

Texas Women and Girls in STEM Summit

Friday, December 7, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Engineering Education & Research Center

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

Join the Texas Girls Collaborative Project for the 2nd annual Texas Women and Girls in STEM Summit designed to share best practices, connect organizations and individuals, showcase outstanding efforts to increase the number of girls in STEM and support the retention of women in STEM careers. STEM professionals and all who are engaged in education, outreach, recruitment, and/or retention of women and girls in STEM are invited to join in.

This event is hosted during **Computer Science Education Week (CSEdWeek)**, held in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer **Admiral Grace Murray Hopper** (December 9, 1906), and is one of the many events or programs joining in the **Greater Austin STEM Ecosystem's CSEdWeek amplification**.

###

1 in 5 Texas Children Lives in Poverty, and State and Local Policies Don't Do Enough to Support the Success of Every Texas Kid

New *State of Texas Children* report from the Center for Public Policy Priorities provides data and policy solutions to state leaders ahead of the 2019 legislative session

Large disparities in child poverty across race, ethnicity and gender persist in Texas due to historical and current discriminatory policies, according to the **State of Texas Children** report released by the Center for Public Policy Priorities recently. As state lawmakers prepare to gather in January for the 2019 legislative session, they should keep Texas' one in five children living in poverty at the top of their minds when they are making decisions during the upcoming legislative session. The report lays out the challenges Texas children and families face and also some common-sense policy solutions for state leaders to consider.

AAUW in ACTION – people and projects



Lilac Bauer, la_azucena@hotmail.com,

512-743-6338 (text)

December 1, Saturday 9:00 - 12:00, at the Girlstart STEM Center, 1400 W. Anderson Lane. It's a FROSTY Extravaganza with hands-on STEM fun for the whole family. This might also be a great chance to bring a daughter or granddaughter to a **Girlstart** event as it is open to the community. THANK YOU! to **Resa Dunn** and **Jean Bessent** for volunteering to work at the Girlstart DeSTEMber Extravaganza.

Contact **Lilac Bauer** (by email or text) if you are interested in other AAUW group or individual volunteer opportunities. Girlstart always has materials prep needs in Austin, Houston, and North Texas (Irving), so if December 1 doesn't work out, there are always more opportunities available exclusively to you as a gracious supporter of Girlstart.

Please contact **Ginny Tannebring** (ginnytann7@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping Girlstart with data entry for the surveys that they give the girls in the After School Programs a few times a year.



FUND\$\$ opportunities per Debbie Starr, dbbstrr@gmail.com, 512-771-4497

Barnes & Noble stores - Annual Gift-Wrapping Fund Raiser

Haven't had a chance yet to volunteer for an AAUW event? Don't let time run out!! We could use your help wrapping gifts on any one of three days at 2 stores. We even put in an evening option for those who can't make days. Two to three people can work together.....so it's definitely fun! Barnes & Noble provides the wrapping supplies, and we wrap and provide a little information to guests while they wait for their packages. Then they can leave a tip/donation for AAUW. It's easy and fun and puts you in that holiday spirit!

<p>South/Brodie location – call Lilac Bauer 512-743-6338 (text) to pick a shift or 2</p> <p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 6-8:00, 8-10:00 PM Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2-4:00, 4--6:00 PM Monday, Dec. 17, 2-4:00, 4--6:00 PM</p>	<p>North/Arboretum store – call Judy Reinhart (512-345-5936) to sign up</p> <p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 9-11:00 AM, 11-1:00 PM Sunday, Dec. 16, 1-3:00, 3-5:00 PM Wednesday, Dec. 19, 1-3:00, 3-5:00 PM</p>
--	--

Use code C012 to order, but NOT JUST FOR HOLIDAYS



Watch for info about Collin St. Bakery (flyers at branch meetings), since this is a traditional branch fundraising project since 1989. Remember that every single dollar we raise goes to benefit real life women and girls! Tell your friends and family to support this fundraiser (commission on sales), because this is not just for AAUW members.

MORE Women IN ACTION

Your AAUW Board has been facing somewhat of dilemma over the last couple of months. Last year the Board made a decision to lower the cost of all luncheons to hopefully increase attendance, even if it meant that we would have to pay the difference in cost. That decision has been very successful! We feel we speak for the rest of the Board in being delighted that our programs have been so well attended. All reports are that participants were delighted with the content.

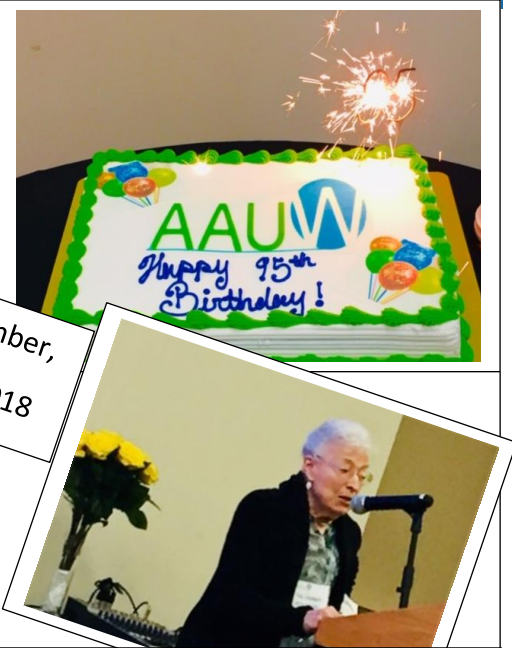
This great success in participation and excitement to attend has come with a cost – no shows. Reservations are required on a date determined by the venue. We have tried to make it clear in the past that if you made a reservation, you made a commitment and thus would be expected to pay the cost of the meal --- just like AAUW has to do. We make the reservation on the determined date and are responsible for that amount.

Your Board has been discussing this and I must say that I have been the consistent Bad Guy. We feel it is very clear cut. If one makes a commitment – to anything – you are responsible. BUT there are exceptions to everything. The exception on reservations is – IF YOU are unexpectedly required to be in the hospital or other care institution, you are exempt and not responsible for payment.

Additionally, IF AAUW changes the date of an event after you have made reservations and you cannot attend, you are exempt and not responsible for payment. There is always the option to cancel your reservation by the date we have to commit to the venue.

You are an integral part of AAUW and very appreciated – just for being you! Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting – and the next – and the next.....Please let us know if you have any questions – or comments – or thoughts – or wishes – or dreams – or ideas – or – well, anything!

HUGS,
Joyce
and Elaine



Wine,
women,
(even MEN),
at programs

