

# The Tiempo

## Women Together in the Sunshine State

By Bea Holt, AAUW Florida Director for Programs

AAUW members across the Sunshine State will be coming together

**April 16, 17 and 18** under unusual circumstances. We'll most likely be home in front of a bright screen, logged in to Zoom and ready to engage with fellow leaders for our biennial leadership conference. Learning virtually. The state board and Leadership Conference Planning Committee have planned five 1-hour virtual sessions over three days, with the annual meeting on the third. Sessions will be recorded; questions are encouraged.



- ♥ Branch successes in 2020 will be highlighted in video and photos.
- ♥ Our keynote speaker will inspire members to continue to lead the way forward.
- ♥ The panel on diversity, equity and inclusion will focus on the online resources developed by AAUW National and implemented locally.
- ♥ The economic security session will explore how to address the current financial situations women face, along with programs and policies designed to address them.
- ♥ Presentations submitted by branches and compiled in a video will show innovative ideas used during the pandemic. Taking care of business.
- ♥ Sunday, April 18, we'll fill four board positions at our annual meeting, and learn about proposed amendments to our state bylaws. (See Voter Guide at [aauw-fl.aauw.net](https://tampa-fl.aauw.net/))
- ♥ We'll also review the pros and cons of the change in membership that all AAUW members will decide in an online vote. The change recommended by AAUW National would eliminate the degree requirement for membership.
- ♥ Register now! There's no fee for this year's virtual conference, but registration is required. Conference sessions will be held via Zoom webinar on April 16, 17 and 18. You can attend any or all.
- ♥ <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/activities/leadership-conference/>
- ♥ Since the annual meeting on April 18 is for AAUW Florida members only, a separate registration is required. You'll get a confirmation email after registering.

**Join us online! VIA ZOOM**



## ***From the Desk of Dr. Sandra Johnson Austin, President***

I am enjoying my membership with AAUW Tampa. Even though we have not been able to meet in person, I have been more intentional with participating in the online webinars that provide deeper insight into what AAUW has to offer. Essentially, what I am saying is being a member of AAUW Tampa has its privileges. Where else have you witnessed the plethora of topics that focus on your mind, body, and spirit? Individually and collectively, we are transcending and shaping a world that sees us differently and I must say that it feels fantastic! Have we arrived? No. Are we satisfied? No. But by golly the journey feels good, and we have the first female Vice President of these United States to thank for such an exuberant feeling. Being a female, we have encountered situations that our counterpart (males) have not and never will experience. Nonetheless, I feel empowered to forge ahead and with the support of AAUW I believe there will come a day when we will no longer have to fight for equal pay and have less debt upon graduation and to start a business. Being a member today guarantees a brighter future for women tomorrow.



This is why I look forward to renewing my membership. By doing so now, I can take advantage of the extended period of membership through June 30, 2022. The membership fee increases from \$84 to \$87. For me, the additional \$3 is one less scoop of my favorite pralines and cream ice cream at Kilwin's in downtown St. Petersburg near the pier. Yes, ice cream is one of my guilty pleasures. I do not have it often, but when I do, eating ice cream takes me to that fun, playful, and happy place that brings back memories. **Renew your membership today and invite a friend or colleague to join us!**

**WE ARE TENACIOUS AND TRAILBLAZING!**



*Advocating equity for women  
and girls in Florida since 1929.*

**... And the nominees for the 2021-2023 positions are....**

**VOTE by April 3 <https://forms.gle/Uyoidk3oW5aeXz637>**

### **Director of Public Policy**

Lucinda (Cindy) Hovi, Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine



Member of AAUW since June, 2019. Dr. Hovi is the current Director of Public Policy for AAUW Tampa. She is a retired Chiropractic and is currently employed as an outpatient coder for Systems Solutions. Dr. Hovi enjoys reading murder mysteries and legal thrillers, paper quilling, and playing cards, especially Bridge.

### **Facebook Manager**

Ericka Lewis, MBA



Member of AAUW since September, 2020. Ms. Lewis recently graduated from Florida Atlantic University with an MBA. She is working as a Business Analyst at DXC Technology. Ms. Lewis enjoys biking, traveling, podcasting, hiking, reading, and shopping. Her guiding motto is

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant" by Robert Louis Stevenson.

### **Director of Membership**

April Cobb, MBA – Human Resources



Member of AAUW since, June, 2020. Ms. Cobb has been a 6th grade educator in the Hillsborough County Public School System for the past 20 years. She was nominated for and won many prestigious awards, including AAUW Tampa's Ribbon of Honor Award and the Tau Beta Zeta Sorority Community Service Award. She owns

BeauteBlue Print Foundation-a non-profit that is designed to nurture and support young girls as they gain exposure to STEM programs. One of her guiding mottos is "It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men" – Frederick Douglass.

### **Director of Scholarship**

Gloria Hilton, DNP



Member of AAUW since July, 2016. Dr. Hilton was this branch's first Director of Tech Trek and STEM Activities. As a Registered Nurse and Healthcare Professional, she was well-qualified for the Compliance Officer position she held at James A Haley Hospital-Tampa. Currently,

Dr. Hilton is an adjunct nursing faculty for South University School of Nursing, Tampa. She enjoys reading, cooking, and walking. Her guiding principle: "Make a positive change in the community and beyond through service to God and others in deeds and resources."

### **Director of Programs**

Bert Dunbar, PhD, ANPR



Member of AAUW since May 2014. Dr. Bert Dunbar was previously the president of the Tampa Branch from 2016 to June 2020. She retired from the James A. Haley VA Hospital—Tampa where she was the Chief Nurse of Mental Health. She is currently employed as an adjunct mental health nursing faculty at Hills-

borough Community College. Dr. Dunbar is a news 'junkie.' She also enjoys reading and gardening. Her life's guiding motto: "I cannot direct the wind. I can only adjust my sails."

### **Recording Secretary**

Wanda Gibson, RN, Oncology



Member of AAUW since March, 2020. Ms. Gibson retired after 41 years from James A Haley VA Hospital -Tampa. She was a Nurse Manager for 30 of those years. She is the current recording secretary for her high school alumnus association. Additionally, she was the recording secretary for a women's stock partnership. Ms.

Gibson enjoys sewing, crocheting, and building jigsaw puzzles. Her guiding principles: "Love the Lord my God with all my heart and soul and with all my strength and with all my mind;" and "to love my neighbor as myself."



### Ribbon of Honor Recipient

**Robyn Donaldson** is a native of Tampa, FL. She is the first female to graduate from Tampa Bay Technical School where she completed the Industrial Electricity Program in 1987. Graduation followed from Community Real Estate Development Program (CRED) authorized by Tampa Housing Authority and University of South Florida. She holds certifications from the National Center for Construction Education and Research, and Florida Masonry, which qualifies her as a Certified Instructor, Certified Proctor and Performance Evaluator. One of her future goals is to complete her degree in Architectural Design and Construction Building Design from Hillsborough Community College.

Robyn is the founder of STEM Xposure, a program that exposes minority students to STEM careers as it relates to architectural design and construction building. The program encourages students to use the same building process to create better lives for themselves using the technology they have learned to solve a community problem. She works with at-risk kids by teaching them construction trades, as well as women who want to pivot into the construction industry. Since 2018, she has exposed almost 300 students in the Tampa Bay community to STEM careers and provided student volunteers with community hours.

Robyn partners with the Beck Group to provide internships to aspiring Architects, while guiding them on the design process for building homes in East Tampa. In 2020, the STEM Xposure Global Summer Camp impacted local and international students. The camp went global in the middle of a pandemic. The program is operated out of her garage. Despite humble beginnings, big things are happening. Robyn reaffirms that all things are possible.

Her legacy would be to have all minority schoolgirls in the STEM careers and women in the construction industry as Engineers, Mathematicians, professional trades persons, and general contractors. She would like to show everyone how to build a brighter and better life. Robyn has been featured on PBS, ABC News, CBS and selected by the NFL to provide services to the LIV Super Bowl. Her work is a great asset to the Tampa Bay Community. —By Dr. Gloria Hilton, Chair of the Ribbon of Honor Committee



**Joyce Ellsworth    April 17**

**Dionna Doss        April 20**

**Irene Bembry        April 26**

## AAUW Tampa Speaker Saturday, April 17, 2021



### AAUW Tampa Welcomes Phillip McEuen

Phillip McEuen serves as the University of South Florida (USF) College of Nursing's Director of Development since May 2016.

During this time, he has increased philanthropic support for the college, as well as increased alumni involvement. Phillip earned a Public Relations degree from the University of Georgia Robinson School of Journalism. Phillip, who was recently awarded the prestigious Joan Pynes Memorial Scholarship held within the USF College of Arts and Sciences, is currently enrolled in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at USF with an expected graduation date of Fall, 2023. He and his family reside in Belleair Beach, Florida.

AAUW Tampa welcomes Phillip McEuen!!

Click on the link below to join the meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8631166778?pwd=MkwwRlFtQWhjLy9VVFVrWTVXcWEyQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 116 6778 Password: 725238



**Welcome to our  
newest members.  
We look forward to  
getting to know you  
at our virtual new  
member virtual on  
April 24th from  
3:00 to 4:00 pm.**



Board Meeting April 10, 2021 10:30 am to 11:00 Via Zoom	General Meeting April 17, 2021 11:00 am-12:30 pm Via Zoom
--	--

Board Meeting May 8, 2021 10:30 to 11:00 Via Zoom	General Meeting May 15, 2021 11:00 am-12:30 pm Via Zoom
--	--

### *Board of Directors*

President	Dr. Sandra Johnson Austin
Vice President	Vacant
Director of Programs	Irene Bembry
Director of Membership	Shella Miller
Director of Finance	Yvette Williams
Director of Public Policy	Dr. Lucinda Hovi
Director of Scholarships	Jasmine White-Bynum
Director of Tech Trek/STEM Activities	Dree Jenkins
Director of Communications	Franca Washington
Recording Secretary	Mattie Parr
Corresponding Secretary	Connie Fountain
Copy Editor- This Issue	Franca Washington



<https://www.aauw.org/membership/>

If you have questions, please contact

Mrs. Shella Miller

Director of Membership

at email:

ShellaMiller078@gmail.com.

**WE VALUE YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
AND INVOLVMENT!**

**Are you wondering HOW to  
get involved????**

**We are still looking for  
nominees for:**

- ♥ **Vice President**
- ♥ **Director of Public Policy**

**Contact Dr. Bert Dunbar via  
email at bert28@aol.com.**