

# NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO. 5 | February 2023 | VOL. 2022-2023

Tampa (FL) Branch

Making A Difference for Over 100 Years

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Hello AAUW Tampa Members,

As we begin the second month of the year, I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the early spring-like weather. Hopefully, with the warmer temps, you can break away from your desk or office and enjoy connecting to natural spaces as suggested in this month's *Wellness Corner* (p. 7).

I believe it would be safe to say, the month of January flew by quickly and was filled with a variety of wonderful activities. February is shaping up to be quite similar. Check out the *President's Corner* (p. 2) for a nice overview of what's on the horizon over the next few months and how you may become involved.

As always, AAUW Tampa members and guests are presented many varied opportunities. This month brings the occasion to:

- **Understand Social Justice:** For me, every time I attend a meeting I gain understanding. Thank you to AAUW Tampa's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, for organizing this month's program which will present a panel discussion with community leaders who will share their insights on how *Critical Race Theory impacts Social Justice* (p. 4).
- **Prepare:** Currently we are preparing for our *Annual Fundraiser* and upcoming *elections*. Donations are still needed for the fundraiser (Silent Auction Items and Baskets). If you wish to donate, please contact our Auction and Baskets Coordinator, Connie Fountain, at [newbeginnings506@gmail.com](mailto:newbeginnings506@gmail.com) as soon as possible to discuss your submissions (p. 6). Additionally, several board positions will be opening up at the end of this membership year. Are you ready to serve? See the list of *board vacancies*! One might be right for you. (p. 8).
- **Celebrate:** Who doesn't like to celebrate. Each month there are numerous *commemorations* (p. 3), recognitions of *birthdays* (p. 5), and *kudos* for outstanding work done by fellow AAUW members (p.9). Make sure to take some time and view associated articles found in the newsletter.

Until we meet again, have a wonderful month.

Authored By: Dr. Demetrix Rostick-Owens  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS



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# A Message from the President



**Shella Miller,  
President  
AAUW Tampa  
2022-2024**

Dear AAUW Tampa Members:

It's hard to believe the first month of 2023 has come and gone and we are in the full swing of things! Before you know it, our Annual Fundraiser will be here on March 11th at the Tampa Palms Golf and Country Club. This year's theme is *"Celebrating Resilience and Forging Ahead!"*

Our keynote speaker, Jonathan Esteban, is a Veteran, motivational speaker, and musician, who has made an appearance on "The Voice" auditions, one of my favorite shows! Resilience is the name of the game for Jon, who will share his story of how he has overcome many challenges, pushed ahead, and now inspires others on all types of platforms. Trust me, you don't want to miss his inspirational story! Tickets for the fundraiser are on sale now through the end of February. Are you looking to purchase one or more tickets? You are encouraged to do so either during the next AAUW monthly meeting, being held on February 18, 2023, or via Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tampa-aauw-2023-annual-fundraiser-celebrating-resilience-and-forging-ahead-tickets-514160767697>

Please help us spread the word about this magnificent annual event. Our goal is to have 100 attendees and we need your help. So please personally INVITE! INVITE! INVITE! your family, friends, and professional and social networks. I have found success in getting people to attend when I call up and personally invite someone from my circle.

Not only does the fundraiser generate resources to support our scholarships and programs, it also serves as a community outreach event for recruiting new members. Additionally, during the fundraiser, we also present the Ribbon of Honor (ROH) Award. Created during AAUW Tampa, Inc.'s 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration, the ROH Award recognizes and celebrates an upstanding community leader whose work aligns with and advances the AAUW mission. A recipient's contributions, whether driven by their career or volunteer work, must be an exemplary beacon to others. We are currently taking nominations for the ROH Award through February 15<sup>th</sup> and would love to hear from you if you have a nominee in mind.

Please be reminded the ROH Award nominee:

- Cannot be a member of AAUW Tampa, Inc.
- Must be a model of leadership in implementing or promoting the principles of advocacy, education, and/or research with a focus on equity for women and girls.

As I close, I want to thank each of you in advance for your support and encourage you to share the gift of AAUW with others. Our Fundraiser is the perfect opportunity to do that! The luncheon will include a silent auction and themed basket drawings, networking, musical entertainment, a delicious plated lunch option. Funds from this event are allocated for the benefit of AAUW scholarships and programs. Who says giving back can't be fun? See you all there!!!!

Best Regards,  
Shella M. Miller, FACHE  
AAUW Tampa Branch President

# February

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>To learn more about a topic, click the images included on the calendar</p>			<p>1</p> <p><u>First day of Black History Month</u></p>	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>American Heart Association.</p> 	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> 	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> 	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> 
<p>12</p> 	<p>13</p> 	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p>  <p><u>Monthly Meeting</u></p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p><b>NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK – FEBRUARY 19-25, 2023</b></p>						
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p>	<p><b>Click the Links Below for More Information</b></p> <p><a href="#">February Fun Facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Fun Food for February</a></p> <p><a href="#">Purchase your AAUW Tampa Fundraiser Tickets</a></p> <p><a href="#">Get your Fundraiser Donations In</a></p> <p><a href="#">Send Birthday Greetings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Consider Becoming an AAUW Tampa Board Member</a></p>			

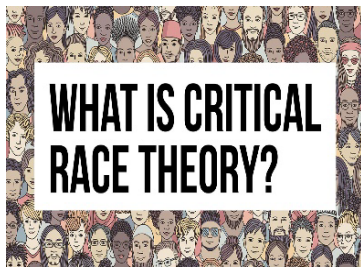
# World Day of Social Justice: February 20

## Together We Can Make A Difference!

World Day of Social Justice is observed annually on February 20. Internationally, the world is plagued with unfortunate issues that prohibit millions of individuals from living a fair life. Many of the world's population, through no fault of their own, are deprived of basic facilities, such as homes, jobs, healthcare, education, nutrition, equality and more. It must be the responsibility of the privileged to ensure that we can create a just world where social justice is a norm.



At our general meeting on February 18, in observance of World Social Justice Day, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee will host a panel discussion on "The Critical Race Theory: Its Impact on Social Justice." The panel will be comprised of three dynamic panelists:



- **Dr. Idella Phillips**, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer and past President, Hillsborough County League of Women Voters
- **Dr. Vonzell Agosto**, Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Affiliate Faculty in Women and Gender Studies, and Educational Measurement and Research, University of South Florida
- **Dr. Dana Thompson Dorsey**, Professor, College of Education, University of South Florida

While we are excited to hear from our panelist, each of us can personally observe World Day of Social Justice as well. The DEI committee suggests we can:

1. Advocate for a social cause: Research and advocate for a cause such as gender equity.
2. Organize a social justice event: Start an event in your neighborhood to raise awareness and help create a fair world for everyone.
3. Educate ourselves on social issues: Read books, converse with affected groups, or travel around the world to see the conditions in other countries.



**Program Organizers:** Drs. K. Lee-Smith, Lucinda Hovi, Sandra Johnson Austin & John Chaplick  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION DIRECTOR & COMMITTEE

## NCCWSL Conference 2023- In Person

AAUW is Connecting with Women College Student Leaders- Spread the Word!

Registration is now open for our 2023 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)! We're back live and in person this year from May 31 – June 3, 2023, at the University of Maryland, College Park with an amazing lineup of inspiring speakers, workshops, panels, and more! Want to get the early bird rate? **Register for NCCWSL 2023.**

- ❖ **Attend**
- ❖ **Agenda**
- ❖ **Conference FAQ**
- ❖ **Scholarship**
- ❖ **Workshops**
- ❖ **Sponsor**
- ❖ **NCCWSL Steering Committee**

**Program Organizers:** 2023 Conference Steering Committee  
AAUW NATIONAL



# Happy, Happy Birthday to You...

Valeria Bembry- 1  
 Gloria Hilton- 8  
 Patricia Tabone- 20  
 Shella Miller- 24  
 Paula E H Stewart- 25  
 Franca Washington- 27



## Special Interest Groups (SIGs):

### A Powerful Point of Connection!



Are you looking to connect on a smaller scale with other AAUW Tampa Members? Special Interest Groups, or SIGs, may be your answer. Get together with like-minded individuals with whom you may share a common interest. Share your ideas over coffee, during lunch, or during an outing. The options are plentiful.

Below are the names of the two active SIGs at AAUW Tampa. For more information, contact the associated coordinators.



- **Around the Town-** Irene Bembry ([beckybembry52@gmail.com](mailto:beckybembry52@gmail.com))
- **Camera Group:** Catherine Clark Martin ([ccmartinaauw@gmail.com](mailto:ccmartinaauw@gmail.com))

**Other SIG options might include:** Book Groups, Policy Discussions, Quilting, Film Screenings and Discussions, Writers Workshops or and Game Playing Groups.

**Interested in hosting a SIG???** Let us know @ [AAUWTampaInfo@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWTampaInfo@gmail.com)

# Calling for Fundraiser Donations

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 11. This is the date of AAUW Tampa's Annual Fundraiser! The fundraiser helps tremendously with funding AAUW endeavors and scholarships. The event is fast approaching. Ahead of the event, we are calling for the donations in the forms of gift baskets or items for our silent auction. Please note the following details:



## Gift Baskets Donations

- Baskets may either be purchased or hand crafted by the person donating
- Donated baskets will be raffled during the fundraiser
- When donating a basket, please tell us the basket's value to help with the raffle pricing! If a value is not submitted, the committee will guess of the value and price accordingly.
- The cost of raffle tickets will vary based upon the value of the donated basket.

Value of Donated Basket	1 Raffle Ticket Cost	6 Raffle Tickets Cost
\$1.00 to \$50.00	\$3.00 for 1 ticket	\$15.00 for 6 tickets
\$51.00 to \$100.00	\$6.00 for 1 ticket	\$30.00 for 6 tickets
\$101.00 and greater	\$10.00 for 1 ticket	\$50.00 for 6 tickets

## Silent Auction Donations

- Silent auction items may either be purchased or hand crafted by the person donating
- Donated silent auction items will be presented during the fundraiser and awarded at the end, going to the highest bidder
- Please note: Silent auction items should be clean and in good repair. Please tell us the value of your items and give us a very short description of the item.
- Are you looking for auction ideas? Take a look at a few suggestions below; however, don't let the list limit your imagination!
  - A porcelain or exotic tea set
  - Paintings, originals, or good prints
  - A handcrafted piece of art
  - A new, never used quilt
  - A gift certificate for 18 holes of golf, a complete car detail or two movie tickets with dinner and dessert for two



**Do you have questions or would you like to submit a donation?** Please contact the Auction and Baskets Coordinator, Connie Fountain, at [newbeginnings506@gmail.com](mailto:newbeginnings506@gmail.com), ASAP to discuss your submission(s).

**Program Organizers:** Connie Fountain, Tara Perkins, and Drs. Ebony Shoemo and Bert Dunbar  
**FUNDRAISER CHAIRS AND THE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

# Wellness Corner

In February, we think of LOVE. Usually, we show our love to others, as the Valentine Day tradition dictates. But what if you turn that LOVE inward this year? YOU deserve to love yourself as well. So, how are you going to do that? One of my favorite ways to show myself some love is to go outside.



This time of year is one of the best times to be outside in Florida. Take your shoes off and stand in the grass (away from the fire ants) and allow yourself to absorb the earth's energy. Enjoy your surroundings. How does the sun feel? Can you hear the birds serenading you? What is your body saying? LOVE yourself, you are worth it!

Authored By: Catherine Clark Martin  
VICE PRESIDENT

## TIPS TO LOVE YOURSELF AND BE MORE CONFIDENT

- Be active
- Be positive
- Eat well
- Prioritize your finances
- Help others
- Learn something new
- Work on body language
- Give and accept compliments
- Visualize your success
- Turn failure around

[marcuslemonis.com/life-skills/love-yourself-be-confident](http://marcuslemonis.com/life-skills/love-yourself-be-confident)





# 2023 Elections are Approaching

Annual elections are upcoming. There are several board positions which will soon become available. Over the next few months you will be able to nominate and vote on nominees to fill the positions with the final selections being announced during the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. At the close of the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, the board members in attendance voted and approved the 2023 Elections Committee members including Paula Stewart, Rev. Martha Vaguener and Catherine Clark Martin (will serve as Chair).

## Available Board Positions and Position Descriptions

<p><b>Vice President</b></p> <p>This position works very closely with the President and supports his or her agendas and duties. The Vice-President will perform the duties of the President when he or she is absent. As a branch leader, this position provides you the opportunity to understand AAUW in a deeper way and help move the Tampa's branch in a continued positive direction.</p>	<p><b>Director of Program Development</b></p> <p>Foster your creativity in this role! This position, along with the committee members create the wonderful programs that we have come to enjoy at the Tampa branch. The Director will oversee the planning, development, and implementation of those programs, as well as selecting and presenting an appropriate gift for the outgoing president.</p>
<p><b>Director of Membership</b></p> <p>This position focuses not only on recruitment of new members to our branch, but also in retention of our current members. You will keep record of all new members and will facilitate their introduction at their first meeting. The Director of Membership works very closely with the Corresponding Secretary and Director of Communications when the member joins.</p>	<p><b>Director of Finance</b></p> <p>Do you enjoy numbers? This position may be for you. Working closely with the President and Recording Secretary, this role pays financial obligations, keeps detailed finance records, maintains the bank account, shares financial reports at meetings and during formal reviews, collects annual dues, pays out scholarships, and submits applications to AAUW National.</p>
<p><b>Director of Public Policy</b></p> <p>AAUW policies ensure actions are congruent with issues that impact women and girls. The incumbent reviews the AAUW website and other reliable sources to share info with members and recruits committee members to help create an annual public policy program that reflects local, state, or national public policy issues that affect women and girls.</p>	<p><b>Recording Secretary</b></p> <p>You will be recording the history of AAUW Tampa by recording and maintaining records of the general branch and board meetings. The Recording Secretary shall assist the President or the President's representative at each meeting. The recording secretary shall sit on an appointed bylaws ad hoc committee to record meeting minutes.</p>
<p><b>Parliamentarian</b></p> <p>Rule enforcement is another way of characterizing this position. The Parliamentarian shall utilize the Affiliate's bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised 12th edition, to ensure parliamentary procedure is followed. The person in this role will advise the branch president, officers, committees, and members of parliamentary rules and matters of procedure. The parliamentarian will act as a facilitator and educator to membership and establish that a quorum is present for meetings where votes are taken. This position is an appointed position.</p>	



Are you an AAUW Tampa member, but are not serving on the board and wish to? Or, are you a current board member finishing up one board term and would like to continue to serve in a newly available position? The Elections Committee wants you to share your interests by Saturday, February 18, 2023! To learn more, email ([aauwtpanominations@gmail.com](mailto:aauwtpanominations@gmail.com)) or call/text (813-270-8885) the committee to.

Authored By: Catherine Clark Martin  
VICE PRESIDENT



# Does Knowledge Matter?

Does knowledge really matter? You might ask Avis Chaplick, John Chaplick, Catherine Gibson, and Pat Tabone, exemplars in the “Table Talk” activity challenge! The four were table mates at AAUW Tampa’s January 2023 meeting. They earned the highest score for the “Table Talk” activity which was designed as a fun way to review three major topics covered in previous presentations or the AAUW Tampa newsletter. The “Table Talk” activity quizzed participants on the following topics/events:

- *The International Day of the Girl Child*, which increased awareness of equity in rights, education, and health of young girls across the globe (presented by Tara Perkins in the form of a lovely tea fundraiser during the October 2022 meeting)
- *Shared Governance*, which highlighted the importance of executives and members within a group using non-hierarchical approaches to create and maintain an environment where the beliefs, concerns, and ideas of all members matter (presented by Dr. Bert Dunbar in the forms of two very thoughtful essays which appeared in the October 2022 and November 2022 newsletters)
- *Human Trafficking*, which brought attention to how we all can become aware of and participate in the process of stopping human trafficking in our communities (presented by attorneys Jenay Iurata and Brent Woody in the form of a dynamic in-person presentation which anchored the monthly meeting in November 2022)

Kudos to Avis, John, Catherine, and Pat, the quick-minded quartet, for showing us all that knowledge matters. To reward their great efforts, members of the winning table earned a “free lunch,” courtesy of the Tampa AAUW, Inc. member’s incentive fund. Monies in the fund were donated specifically for membership incentive activities.

Authored By: Dr. Bert Dunbar  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

## Applauding the Scholarship Committee

For their diligence in selecting the 2022 scholarship recipients, we give commendations to the Scholarship Committee, consisting of Irene Bembry, Connie Fountain, Kim Rostick, Jackie Vento and Dr. Gloria Hilton. Emily C., Jasmine R., and Julia R., each studying a form of engineering at the University of South Florida in Tampa, were the selected recipients of the financial scholarship awarded by AAUW Tampa, Inc.



During the January 2023 monthly meeting, the trio of recipients participated in an introspective Q&A session and eloquently discussed perspectives on a) their academic journeys as female STEM majors, b) how they benefitted from being awarded AAUW scholarships, c) the need for seeking mentorship within the field, d) the importance of securing internships that align with their future academic and career plans following graduation, and e) the awesome feat of graduating from college debt-free. The students’ stories were engaging and highlighted the complexities within their majors and the realities that there is continued work needed in promoting women in STEM-focused majors as each student reported only having 2-3 female faculty (out of 30) during their academic program. Thank you Dr. K. Lee-Smith for capturing pictures during the event.



Authored By: Dr. Demetrix Rostick-Owens  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

# Final Call for Scholarship Applications

Applications will be accepted from rising undergraduate juniors and seniors as well as graduate students at the University of South Florida, University of Tampa, and South University. The AAUW Tampa Branch has been updated. We would appreciate all AAUW Tampa Branch members spreading the word about this \$1,000 scholarship. Applications close February 15, 2023.


**Application due Wednesday, February 15, 2023**

## The American Association of University Women

## Tampa Branch

## 2023 STEM Scholarship






### Eligibility

- Undergraduate Junior, Undergraduate Senior or Graduate Student in 2023-2024
- Full time enrollment (Undergraduate must have minimum of 12 credit hours)
- STEM Major
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Resident of the State of Florida
- U.S. Citizen
- Financial Need

**Apply TODAY**

<https://tampa-fl.aauw.net/scholarship/>





## Award \$1,000

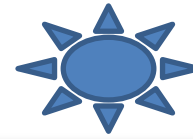
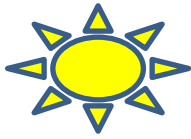
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## One year local membership to AAUW Tampa Branch

Questions? Email us at [AAUWTampaScholarships@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWTampaScholarships@gmail.com)

Authored By: Kim Rostick & Dr. Gloria Hilton  
DIRECTOR OF TECH TREK & SCHOLARSHIPS

# Around Town



Armature Works

Barnes & Noble

Keel Farms

Tampa Riverwalk

Zoo Tampa @ Lowry Park

Hillsborough County

Public Library

Straz Center for the

Performing Arts

Clearwater Marine

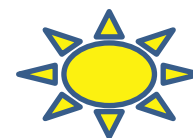
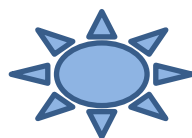
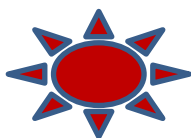
Aquarium

West Coast Players

Ruth Eckerd Hall

Sunken Gardens

The St. Pete Pier





# Stay Connected, Like and Share



## Tampa (FL) Branch

*Making A Difference for Over 100 Years*

Learn More AAUW  
Tampa:  
<http://tampa-fl.aauw.net/>

Access the AAUW  
Tampa Branch  
Bylaws:  
<https://tampa-fl.aauw.net/bylaws/>



AAUW Tampa  
Membership:  
<https://tampa-fl.aauw.net/membership/>

Share the benefits  
of membership with  
others:  
[aauwkampamembership@gmail.com](mailto:aauwkampamembership@gmail.com)

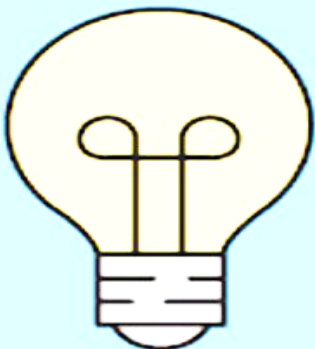
Access the AAUW Community Hub to renew membership: <https://my.aauw.org/onlinejoin>

Learn more or find out how to donate to AAUW Tampa Tech Trek: [aauwkampatechtrek@gmail.com](mailto:aauwkampatechtrek@gmail.com)

Share your interests related to forming a Special Interest Group: [aauwkampainfo@gmail.com](mailto:aauwkampainfo@gmail.com)

Stay in the Know with AAUW Florida: <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/>

Stay in the Know with AAUW National: <https://www.aauw.org/>



Do you have questions?  
Want to share an idea?  
Email Us @  
[aauwkampainfo@gmail.com](mailto:aauwkampainfo@gmail.com)