

2022-2023 BOARD

PRESIDENT

Shella Miller

VICE PRESIDENT

Catherine Clark Martin

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Demetrix Rostick-Owens

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Dr. Ebony Shoemo

DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

Tara Perkins

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Dr. Berthenya Dunbar

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC POLICY

Vacant

DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr. Gloria Hilton

DIRECTOR OF TECH TREK

Kimberly Rostick

**DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY,
EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**

Dr. K. Lee-Smith

SECRETARY: CORRESPONDING

Bonnie Edis

SECRETARY: RECORDING

Paula Huzella

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Vacant

CONTACT US:

tampa-fl.aauw.net

AAUWTampainfo@gmail.com

PO Box 172715,

Tampa FL, 33672

Hello AAUW Tampa Members,

This, I believe, is the best time to be in Florida. The temps are low in the morning and evenings; the days are nicely heated without a lot of humidity; and the west coast sunsets are colorful and clear. The last few weeks have shaped up nicely and given way to moments of clarity and focus. I hope you also have had similar opportunities.

As we look forward, March is proving to bring a great deal of excitement. The fun, work, and joy of the year continue. Make certain to read the "Message from the President" (on page 2) to gather key details about our two largest events for the year, the Annual Fundraiser on March 11 (more info on page 4), and the BEST-X Women's Conference on April 1 (more info on pages 10-11). While I have started with the larger activities, I would be remiss to not mention the following information:

1. March is Women's History Month, check out a few facts related to women on page 5. Also, feel free to scan the calendar to view the celebrated dates, including a very special member's birthday, see page 4.
2. Voting day in Hillsborough (March 7) and Pinellas (March 14) are fast approaching, see more details on page 6. AAUW will also be in Tallahassee from March 13-15 of Lobby Days. Contact Dr. Kay Lee-Smith (aauwflksmith@gmail.com) to learn more.
3. AAUW Tampa Board elections are upcoming, seven (7) board positions are being voted on. See descriptions of positions on page 7.
4. The final few pages of the newsletter cover fun topics including photos from our February meeting (page 8), a write-up featuring new member Paula Thomas (page 9), and a Saint Patrick's Day facts and trivia mind-teaser (page 12).

Until we meet again, have a wonderful month.

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



P. 1

[Welcome](#)

P. 2

[President's
Message](#)

P. 3

[Calendar](#)

P. 4

[Mar 11:
Meeting Details](#)

P. 5

[Women's
Facts](#)

P. 6

[Voting
Information](#)

P. 7-8

[February
Meeting Recap](#)

P. 9

[New Member
Spotlight](#)

P.10-11

[Apr 1: Best-X
Conference](#)

P. 12

[St. Patrick's Day](#)

P. 13

[Out & About](#)

P. 14

[Stay Connected,
Like, and Share](#)

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



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

Dear AAUW Tampa Members:

We are springing into March, and less than 4 months are left in our 2022-2023 membership year. A lot is going on, and we look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events, including our biggest fundraiser of the year on March 11th!

In addition, on Saturday, April 1st, 2023, from 10am-2:00pm at the USF, Marshall Center Oval Theatre, AAUW Tampa, in collaboration with AAUW Sun City Center, will host a half-day Women Empowerment Conference. This event will not only serve as an opportunity to connect and network, but it is also an outreach event to offer personal and professional development to women and further create brand recognition for AAUW in our local community as we build awareness of our mission and advocacy priorities for women and girls. The conference is made possible through a \$1500 grant by AAUW Florida, along with local efforts. The conference title is B.E.S.T.-X, which stands for Better Empowered Self Training Experience and Expo.

Our keynote speaker is Dr. Kimberly Ventus Darks, who will deliver "The Dr. Kim Experience." Dr. Kim has traveled domestically and internationally, inspiring and motivating diverse crowds in various arenas. The theme of her keynote will be *Women of Purpose, Passion, and Prosperity*. The conference is open to all, including men. Please help us spread the word and information widely! As this is our first time hosting such an event, we want to have an excellent turnout. For your convenience, the agenda is outlined on pages 8-9 of the newsletter. You can register for the event at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/best-x-better-empowered-self-training-experience-and-expo-tickets-465731093237?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

We are also developing a souvenir booklet to pass out at the event that will include fascinating facts about women, a listing of local, women-owned small businesses (free to list), salary negotiation tips, and how to become an AAUW Two-Minute Advocate. If you have friends or family who own local Tampa businesses, dedication ads may be purchased via the conference page at: <https://www.aauwtampabest2022.com/sponsorship-opportunity.html>.

As I close, I want to inform you that after April 1, AAUW National dues will change to \$72, which is still a bargain for any association membership. New members who join before April 1 will be charged the current national rate of \$67, therefore, you are encouraged to recruit and bring in new members to join the team. AAUW membership is now adhering to a rolling schedule, so those who join in March 2023 will maintain membership through March 2024. For existing members, your renewals are due on your anniversary date. Not sure of your anniversary date? Please reach out to our Director Membership, Ms. Tara Perkins at aauwtampamembership@gmail.com. Finally, I hope you enjoy another fantastic issue with great information from our Director of Communications, Dr. Demetrix Rostick-Owens. She does a phenomenal job; we are very lucky to have her skills and talents!

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

MARCH 2023



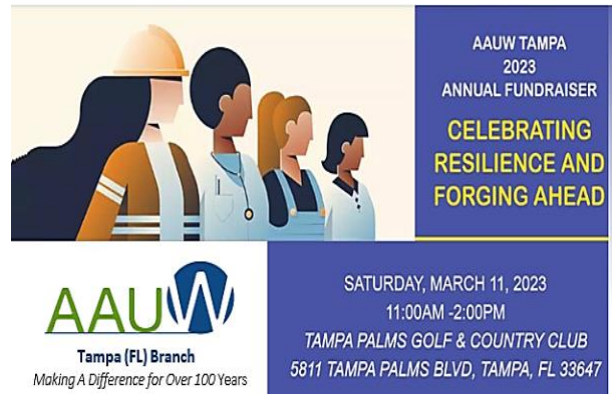
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 	2 Legislative Agenda/Public Policy Discussion Zoom Registration: 7:00 PM, EST	3 National Day of Unplugging 	4
5	6	7 Election Day 	8 In focus: International Women's Day	9	10	11 
12 	13 <div>Join us in Tallahassee and help advance gender equity for women and girls at Lobby Days 2023. March 13 to March 15 Click here to register</div>	14	15	16	17 	18
19	20 	21	22	23 	24	25
26	27	28	29 	30	31	April 1, 10AM 



MARCH 11: AN AFTERNOON OF INSPIRATION AND MUSIC

The AAUW Tampa Branch cordially invites you to attend the upcoming annual Fundraiser and Luncheon for an afternoon of inspiration, music, and fun.

Join AAUW Tampa's members, family, and friends from 11AM-2:00PM on March 11, 2023 at the Tampa Palms Golf & Country Club to hear inspirational words of the event keynote, Mr. Jonathan Esteban, the jazzy musical interludes of singer and keyboardist, Mr. Anthony Becton, and the rousing welcome from the event emcee, Mrs. Kimberly Rostick.



Come ready to have a good time and network with professionals in the Tampa Bay area, while supporting AAUW scholarships and programs. Donations of \$65.00, include lunch attendee's choice of Chicken, Fish, or Vegetarian meal. Make your payment and register to attend by signing up on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). For questions about the event, please email aauwkampresident@gmail.com. Check out www.aauw.org and <http://tampa-fl.aauw.net/> for more information. We look forward to seeing you!

Featured Presenters:



Jonathan "Jon" Esteban,
Motivational Speaker



Rev. Martha Vaguener,
AAUW Tampa Member



Anthony "Tony" Becton,
Musician

Featured Authors:



Carolyn Austin,
Author

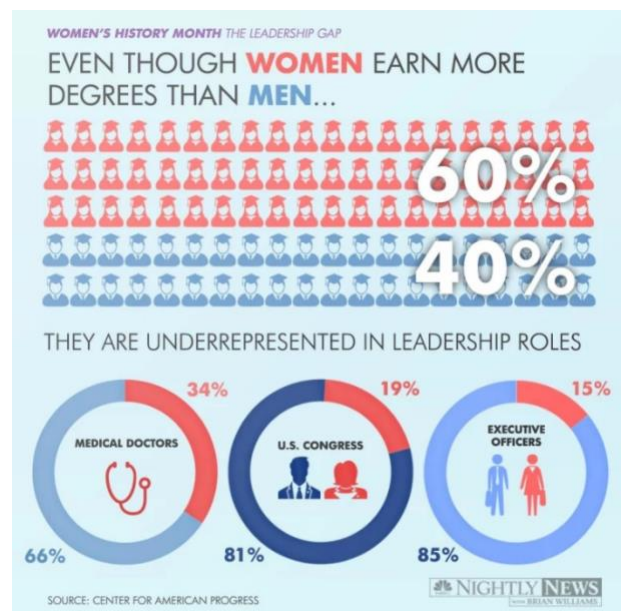
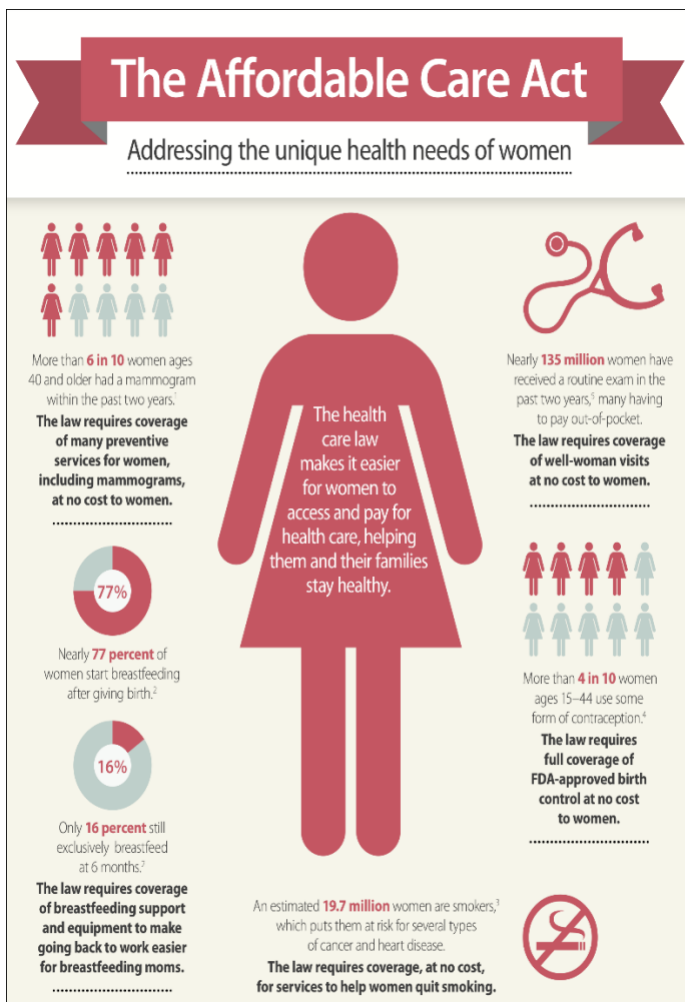
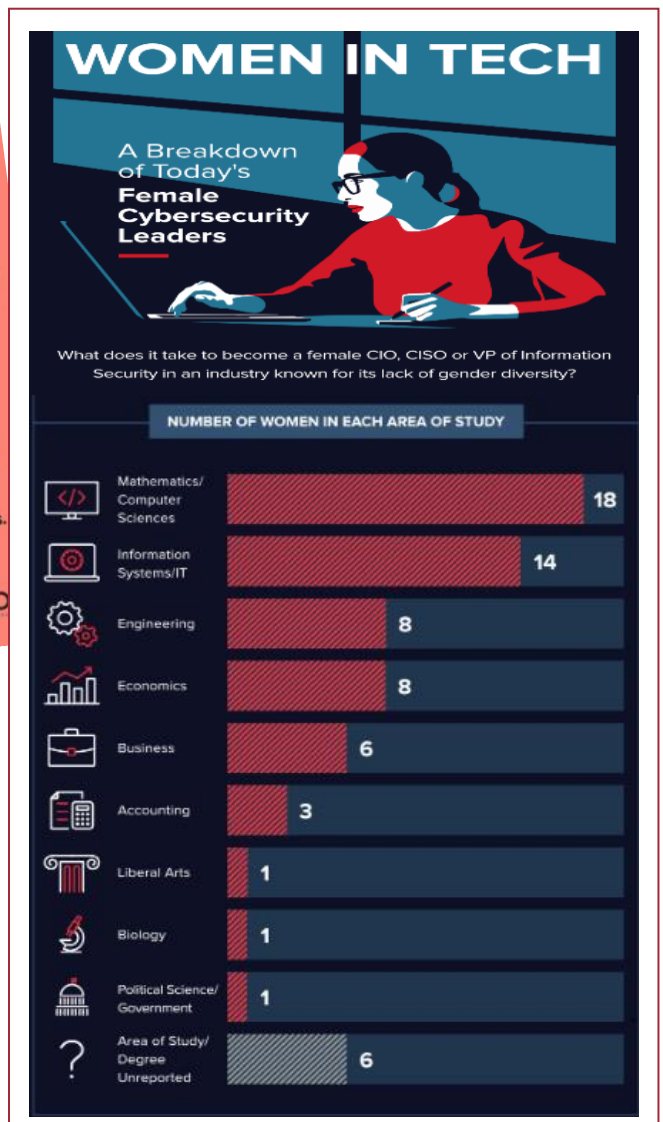
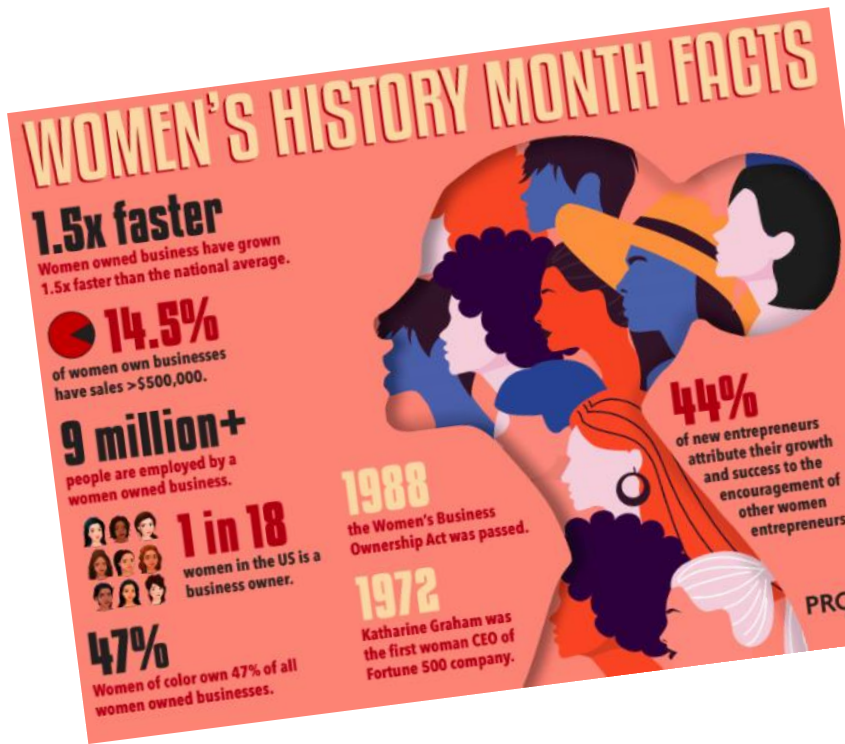


John Chaplick,
Author



Lt. Col. (Ret) Charles E. Smith,
Author

FACTS, FACTS & MORE FACTS



VOTING DAY INFO & TRIAGE

UPCOMING FLORIDA ELECTION DATES

March 2023

07
MAR

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

MUNICIPAL

City of Tampa Municipal Election, Flagler County City Elections (Bunnell, Flagler Beach, Town of Beverly Beach), Lee County Municipal Election (Sanibel, Village of Estero)

Please contact your local elections official for more information on elections happening in your area.

Registration Deadlines:

BY MAIL

Monday, February 6, 2023

IN PERSON

Monday, February 6, 2023

ONLINE

[Get Registered!](#)
Monday, February 6, 2023

14
MAR

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

MUNICIPAL

Pinellas County Municipal Elections, Longboat Key General Election, Special District Elections (Holiday Park and Tri-Par Park and Recreation Districts), Palm Beach County Municipal Elections

Contact your town or city clerk's office for additional Election details.

Registration Deadlines:

BY MAIL

Monday, February 13, 2023

IN PERSON

Monday, February 13, 2023

ONLINE

[Get Registered!](#)
Monday, February 13, 2023

VOTE 411SM

**CHECK YOUR
VOTER REGISTRATION**

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS? ☎

Report an election problem

1-866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)

1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español)

1-888-API-VOTE (Asian multilingual)

1-844-YALLA-US (Arabic)

¹Vote 411: <https://www.vote411.org/>

²Check Your Voter Registration: <https://www.vote411.org/check-registration>

AAUW TAMPA ELECTIONS ARE FORTHCOMING

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? See available positions below.

Questions, call or text the Committee Chair at 813-270-8885 or send an email to aauwtampanominations@gmail.com

Available Board Positions and Position Descriptions

Vice President

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.

Director of Program Development

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.

Director of Membership

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.

Director of Finance

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.

Director of Public Policy

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.

Recording Secretary

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.

Parliamentarian

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.

KUDOS!

Kudos and Thanks to the Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee for delivering an informative panel discussion entitled "The Critical Race Theory: Its Impact on Social Justice" on Feb. 18, 2023.

Facilitated by Dr. Saundra Johnson Austin, guest panelists- Drs. Vonzell Agosto, Joan Holmes-Mosely, and Dana Thompson Dorsey- provided insights on the history and development of the critical race theory (CRT) movement. The movement was conceived and utilized by legal scholars to critique race-based academic, social, and economic iniquities following the reversals of several civil rights advancements.

Panelist asserted CRT continues to be a necessary tool anyone can use in their pursuit to examine and create change in laws, systems and practices that, based solely upon race and power, create different outcomes for black and brown people.

Enjoy the photos from the day of the event on the next page.

FEB. 2023 EVENT PHOTOS

Speakers



Facilitator



Discussion Panelist



For Bios of Panelists



BIG
THANKS
TO THE WHOLE
TEAM

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



It was over dinner, during a cruise, when Paula Thomas was first introduced to AAUW. Prior to this point, Paula had never heard of AAUW. Fortunately, the woman she was sitting with, was a current member of a different branch who eagerly shared information about the organization. After several conversations, Paula's attention was drawn to AAUW's Focus on STEM and scholarships. She also found value in the organization's focus on education, which Paula describes as an important entity which helps "to change the trajectory of children." Before disembarking from the cruise, Paula exchanged information with her dinner mate and was encouraged to learn more about AAUW.

Unfortunately, soon after, the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 arrived, prompting each of us to take stock of our commitments. Paula, didn't join AAUW right away. In 2020 Paula, who had worked as an educator for 26 years, decided to take an early retirement. Paula's nearly 30-year career presented her with a variety of opportunities within the school system and Hillsborough County. After completing 7 years of employment in customer service and hospitality at the Marriott in Tampa, Paula's career in education began. Her roles included work as a head start substitute and paraprofessional teacher, administrator with the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, and parent advocate and family liaison, fighting for children with emotional disabilities. From 2002 to 2020, Paula worked in Exceptional Student Education, where her leadership and management responsibilities included taking actions to bridge services from home to school, while also ensuring staffing, training, and professional compliance for employees in a total of 52 schools. Paula's work has also extended to her church, Bible Based Fellowship, where she serves to provide scholarships for students of the congregation.



While working in her role as a liaison and raising her own kids, Paula leaned into her passion for organizational leadership, especially when it came to programs for kids of color. Her desire was to create structures and systems that would improve the practices around Community leaders designating resources for programs and services to our children. A lifelong learner herself, Paula took the opportunity to further her education at Hillsborough Community College where she earned a liberal arts degree and training from SCORE Tampa, a program established to assist entrepreneurs with meeting their business goals.

Subsequently, Paula went on to earn a master's degree in organizational leadership with an emphasis on Ethics from Clermont Lincoln. Using the four key principles of Claremont Lincoln- mindfulness, dialogue, collaboration, and change- Paula developed training and growth services for organizations like Career Source and SCORE Tampa, where she is currently the co-chair.

Through her career, Paula has been a steadfast advocate for children, has ensured organizations are serving ethically, and has continued to share her knowledge within the community. So, it is fortunate she set her attention back towards AAUW in Summer of 2022. After reviewing the cost of membership, researching leadership, reviewing social media pages, and learning more about the scholarship program, Paula decided to join AAUW Tampa, where she has found a place in the scholarship committee and is looking forward to working with strong, competent women.

We are glad to have Paula as a member of AAUW Tampa. When not working or volunteering her time, Paula enjoys spending time with her husband, five children, eleven grandchildren (who call her YaYa), and her French bulldog, Raider.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE (HALF-DAY)



BETTER EMPOWERED SELF TRAINING EXPERIENCE & EXPO

APRIL 1, 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA MARSHALL CENTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN TAMPA & SUN CITY CENTER BRANCHES

AGENDA

Date: April 1, 2023, from 10am-2pm

Location: University of South Florida Marshall Center

Oval Theatre Room

4103 USF CEDAR CIRCLE. | TAMPA, FLORIDA

Cost: \$40

Time	Topic/Activity	Presenter
9:30 am – 10:00am	Registration/Networking/Visiting Vendor Tables/	All Participants
10:00am-10:15am	Welcome/Ice Breaker/ and Morning Pump Up	Ms. Leesa Askew
10:15am-10:25am	Inspiration through Music Music can Comfort, Inspire, and Motivate	Mr. Jonathan Esteban
10:25am-11:00am	Making Transitions Panel Discussion: Career, School, Retirement	Panelist
11:00am-11:30am	Lunch/Networking/ Vendor Tables	All Participants
11:30am-12:30pm	Networking Discussions by Breakout	Facilitator Led Breakout Discussions: Entrepreneur Group Student Group Career Group Retirement/Transitions Group
12:30pm-2:00pm	Keynote Address: The Dr. Kim Experience A Motivational Tycoon is the only word that describes the powerful Dr. Kimberly-Ventus Darks!!!!!!	Dr. Kimberly Ventus-Darks
2:00pm	Closing Remarks	Ms. Leesa Askew

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference Registration is \$40.00 and includes all conference networking sessions, a souvenir booklet, lunch, and the motivational speaker. You can register on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/best-x-better-empowered-self-training-experience-and-expo-tickets-465731093237>

Or

Manual Registrations can be processed by sending in the completed form and payment to:

AAUW Tampa Inc.
P.O. Box 172715
Tampa, FL 33672

*If mailing in registration and payment, please do so **before March 25, 2023**. Please send an email to aauwtampafinance@gmail.com to communicate your registration was mailed.*

Name (First and Last)

Organization

Email

Lunch (please circle)

Turkey Ham Veggie

How did you hear about the conference (circle)

Web/Social Media Email Person/Organization Other

Would you like to sign up for AAUW Tampa and Sun City email distribution on future events? (circle)

Yes or No

ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2023

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century.

St. Patrick's Day 2023 will take place on Friday, March 17. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon.

Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

SHAMROCK FESTIVAL ON THE RIVERWALK

When: Saturday, March 11 from 11am-6pm

Where: Water Works Park

Tickets: FREE Admission

If you are already on the Riverwalk to enjoy the River O' Green, you might as well stop by Water Works Park to have some additional fun! This festival is free and open to all, offering live music, artisan foods, and a market full of local artists and businesses.



RIVER O' GREEN FEST IN TAMPA

When: Saturday, March 18 | 11am-5pm

Where: Hillsborough River (viewing is best on the Riverwalk by Curtis Hixon Park)

Tickets: FREE Admission

The Hillsborough River is turning green! This FREE event will include dyeing the river green (don't worry, it's eco-friendly!), plus food trucks, beer, live entertainment, and family-friendly activities. We recommend getting there early, as parking will fill up quickly. Bring your friends and kids, as this is an event for everyone.

*Wishing you a rainbow
For sunlight after showers-
Miles and miles of Irish smiles
For golden happy hours-
Shamrocks at your doorway
For luck and laughter too,
And a host of friends that never ends
Each day your whole life through!*

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION AT ARMATURE WORKS

When: Saturday, March 18 at 1:00pm

Where: Armature Works

Tickets: FREE admission

Armature Works is hosting its annual St. Patrick's Day celebration on the river with live music, green beer from Stone's Throw, frozen Irish Coffee from Tullamore Dew Irish Whiskey Pop-Up, Irish dancers, giveaways and MORE! The river will be GREEN as part of the 2023 River O Green Fest, so there will be plenty of photo ops as well.



Brain Fun!!!

How quickly can you unscramble the following St. Patty's Day words!

1.LGDO

2.YUKLC

3.REVCOL

4.MRCAH

5.ONRBIWA

ANSWERS:
1. GOLD 2. LUCKY 3. CLOVER 4. CHARM 5. RAINBOW

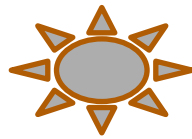
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
UNSCRAMBLE

Out & About in Town



Best things to do in Tampa

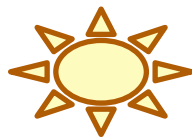
<https://familydestinationsguide.com/best-things-to-do-in-tampa/>



27 Best Things to do in St. Petersburg, Florida

<https://www.beelovedcity.com/things-to-do-st-petersburg-florida>

THINGS TO DO IN ST PETERSBURG, FL



Things to do in Clearwater

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g34141-Activities-Clearwater_Florida.html

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

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

Share your interests related to forming a Special Interest Group: 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