



ATLANTA BRANCH NEWS

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2014-2015 Leadership

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Reflecting On Equality Within Academia

By: Ayesha Kirk



"I spend a lot of time being the only woman and the only black person...Every once in a while it hits me, and I wonder what I'm doing here." -Dr. Jaqueline Scott (Feminist Philosopher)

Recently I had the privilege of attending the 2014 Institute for Humane Studies Undergraduate Colloquium at Tulane University. The event featured the undergraduate research proposals of students from across the country. During the colloquium, students had the opportunity to present potential research proposals to a panel of faculty members for academic critique. The goal of the annual IHS colloquium is to further the scholastic research aspirations of undergraduate students. The event consists of a full weekend of colloquium participation, and it concludes with a day-long conference featuring prominent philosophers, historians, and feminist advocates. As a representative of Georgia State University, it was a pleasure to present a proposal for my upcoming thesis project on the theoretical merits of parental licensing. As a Philosophy major, I am keenly aware of the lack of diversity within my chosen field of study. The field of Philosophy continues to undergo criticism due to the lack of female and minority participants within academic departments across the country. Thus, it is encouraging to see the opportunities available by which one can hone the research and writing skills needed to advance toward graduate work without limitations based on one's race or gender. Conferences such as the IHS colloquium are valuable to the equalization of opportunity within academia, as the insights offered by professors from across the country help young women to elevate their potential to pursue higher education.

AAUW Needs Your Input

By: Dr. Ruth Yurchuck



AAUW is seeking comments about the proposed changes to the bylaws and Public Policy Program. This process takes place every two years, and you can submit comments through December 5, 2014.

You can also propose amendments that you would like to be placed on the ballot in the AAUW national election next spring.

Please go to the AAUW website for detailed information about making comments about the proposed bylaws changes and any proposed revisions to the Public Policy Program.

Cool Scholars: 2014 - 2015 Upcoming Events

By: Ayesha Kirk



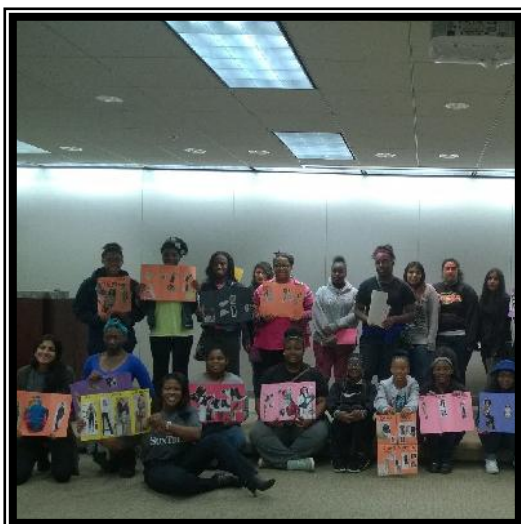
The Cool Scholars programing is going strong as we move into the month of November!

Here are just a few of the upcoming Cool Scholars events taking place from now through the beginning of the upcoming new year.

November 22, 2014:

Fashion and Fitness Part 3

The Cool Scholars will enjoy an opportunity to attend a session centered on personal branding. The girls will discuss their potential future and what it means to brand yourself, develop a style of their own and dressing for success.



The Cool Scholars October 2014 Event:
Fashion & Fitness Part 2

December 13, 2014:

Holiday Shopping Extravaganza

The Cool Scholars will volunteer at the McNair Discovery Learning Academy, located at McNair Discovery Learning Academy; (2162 Second Avenue, Decatur, GA 30032).



The Cool Scholars enjoyed a presentation on body image during Part 2 of the Fashion & Fitness Event

January 24, 2015:

Resumes, Interviewing, and Jobs...Oh My!

The Cool Scholars will learn all about resume writing and how to highlight their strengths. The Cool Scholars will practice interviewing and how to answer interview questions.

Contemporary Literature Group: November Gathering

By: Kay Collins



On Monday, November 3, 2014; the Contemporary Literature Group will meet for lunch and discussion of *The Secret Keeper* by Kate Morton.

Elaine North will be the hostess of the event which will begin at 12 Noon. Please contact Kay Collins or Elaine North for details.

We hope to see you there!

AAUW Atlanta Branch: President's Message

By: Dr. Myra Carmon



It's time for the 2014 midterm elections. We, the women of AAUW and all women, have the right to vote, thanks to the efforts of many women from years past. It is interesting to look back at the Women's Rights Movement in the United States. At the first Women's Rights Convention in 1848, 68 women and 32 men signed a Declaration of Sentiments, setting the agenda for women's rights. Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Stanton from the National Women Suffrage Association pursued voting rights for women by means of a Constitutional Amendment. The National Women Suffrage Association and the American Women Suffrage merged in 1890 with the goal of granting women to vote.

Other organizations joined in the movement. The National Association of Colored Women was formed bringing together more than 100 black women's clubs; their leaders, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, Mary Terrell and Anna Julia Cooper, worked to improve working conditions and wages for women. In 1919 the Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment, originally written by Susan B. Anthony and introduced in Congress in 1878, was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate and then sent to the states for ratification. In 1893, Colorado was the first state to adopt an amendment granting women the right to vote. Twelve other states adopted the amendment between 1896 and 1917. Not too surprising, Georgia was not among the first states to adopt the amendment.

We are indebted these women's groups, our predecessors, who made it possible that we have rights such as the vote. Today women have the right to vote, run for office, participate in the political process, and other rights. Although as pointed out by Representative Mary Margaret Oliver in her presentation of "Women in Politics" at our October meeting, we have women in state offices but not in powerful positions such as legislative Committee Chairs. According to the National Conference of State Legislators (2014), in Georgia women there are 45 women representatives of the 180 and 8 senators of the 56 senators, for a total of 22.5 % of Georgia legislators being women. One of the ways that AAUW Atlanta seeks to increase the presence of women in politics is AAUW's work with AAUW student organizations and Cool Girls provides a means of instilling self-confidence and motivation in young women that will stimulate changes in the status of women in the future.

According to the 2013 census for Georgia, women compose 51.1 % of the population. This number represents a lot of power if we could unite! In this midterm election on November 4th, there are many important offices to fill. For Congress, Michelle Nunn (D) and David Perdue (R) are running for this senate office vacated by Senator Saxby Chambliss. In the Georgia legislature, Jason Carter (D) is running against the incumbent Nathan Deal (R) for Governor. Connie Stokes (D) is running for Lieutenant Governor against Casey Cagle (R), the incumbent. Many other state and district offices are up for election. (check ajc.com for listing of state and congressional candidates). Also check the League of Women Voters Guide and Twitter.com/Politics1com for listing of candidates.

Take advantage of early voting if that is convenient, but most importantly, exert your hard fought right to vote won for us by the many women who came before us!

Myra Carmon

President, Atlanta Branch AAUW

November Outing: Atlanta Branch Travel Group Update

By: Betty Arden



The AAUW Travel Group will meet at 10:00am on November 13th at the Ansley Mall Kroger Store to carpool to the Museum of Design Atlanta, (1315 Peachtree Street, across from the High Museum of Art; [404.979.6455](tel:404.979.6455)).

The exhibit on view is "Inspiring Beauty: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Fair." It tells the 50 year history of the Charity Fashion Spectacle that redefined the concepts of beauty, style, and empowerment for African-American women.

Because the Museum opens at noon, the group will first enjoy brunch at Bantam and Biddy restaurant in Ansley Mall (phone: 404.907.3469)



Please call Betty Arden at for further information.

2014 Bookfair Celebration

By: Sharon Bevis-Hoover



The 2014 AAUW Bookfair at Perimeter Mall

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who made the 2014 Bookfair a success! Bookfair is the primary source of our philanthropic funds, and we are pleased to have completed another great year. Bookfair is also an excellent opportunity to reach out to the metro-Atlanta community to share our mission of advancing equity for women and girls.

Anyone who assisted with Bookfair in any way throughout the year is invited to join us in a celebration on Saturday, November 22, at 10:00 a.m. Alta Birdsong has generously offered her hospitality at Dunwoody, GA 30338.

We will enjoy a light brunch, along with each other's company. 2014 Bookfair Chair Debbie Karvey and Steering Committee Chair Sylvia Goodyear will announce the results of the 2014 Bookfair, and they will present the proceeds to the Cobb County, North Fulton, and Atlanta branches. Please carpool as possible, and park on one side of the street in consideration of the neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there!

Atlanta Branch Reflections: The 2014 Annual Bookfair



AAUW Atlanta Branch Update

By: Ayesha Kirk



The next general meeting of the Atlanta Branch will be a holiday celebration on December 7, 2014 from 3pm-5pm.

The holiday celebration will be held

at the home of Mary and Darwin Womack.

Branch members will receive an evite digital invitation with details regarding the holiday celebration as we move closer to the date of the event.

We hope to see you there!

Submit Newsletter Articles

By: Ayesha Kirk



The deadline to submit articles for the December newsletter is November 20, 2014. Please email your articles to me at publications@aauwatlanta.org.

I always welcome any ideas or feedback for the newsletter you would like to send my way. Thank you for your assistance.

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Calendar

November 3, 2014 - Contemporary Literature Group

November 13, 2014 - Travel Group Outing: Museum of Design Atlanta

November 22, 2014 - Cool Scholars: Fashion and Fitness (Part 3)

December 1, 2014 - Contemporary Literature Group

December 7, 2014 - AAUW Atlanta Branch Holiday Celebration

December 13, 2014 - Cool Scholars: Holiday Shopping Extravaganza

January 5, 2015 - Contemporary Literature Group

January 24, 2015 - Cool Scholars: Resumes, Interviewing, Jobs...Oh My!

Jun 18-21, 2015 - AAUW National Convention, San Diego