



**Saturday, March 15 webinar**

**Polly Poskin, retired Executive Director of the  
Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault**

**11:00am –12noon presentation and Q & A**

**Please RSVP for the zoom link**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/FvHyDaRpRiiBr8FiWqjgRg>**

**Questions: contact [chicagoauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoauw@hotmail.com)**

Polly Poskin recently retired as the Executive Director for the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, a statewide non-profit association of community-based rape crisis centers. <https://icasa.org/>

She has an extensive background in not-for-profit organizational development. She has a long and successful track record in community and neighborhood redevelopment. She educated state and federal policy makers about sexual assault issues, the impact of sexual assault on survivors and communities, the necessity for improved legal and medical responses to survivors and increased funding for rape crisis services, including sexual assault prevention programs.

Polly also served as a public spokesperson on sexual assault issues when invited or needed. Assisted in the formation of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence and served on their Board for many years.



## ***SWAN Day Movie Screening – Metro Chicago***

***Saturday, March 29 at 1:30pm registration 2:00pm movie screening  
All are invited. Please help spread the word <https://iswans.info/>***

***Cost: FREE***

***RSVP via Eventbrite link***

***<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swan-day-chicago-2025-tickets-1246532164259?>***

***Evanston AMC Theatres 1715 Maple Ave, Evanston, IL 60201***

***Public Transportation, street parking, or validated parking in Maple St. lot***

### ***Private Screening of “Ghost” with Demi Moore, Whoopi Goldberg, and Patrick Swayze***

The brainchild of FF2 editor-in-chief Jan Lisa Huttner and WomenArts’ founder Martha Richards, SWAN Support Women Artist Now Day represents a haven for film lovers all over the world! The annual event strives to link women artists and women audience members.. Each year, film buffs come together in community for screenings and powerful conversation.

Sponsored by Chicago Inc Branch of AAUW. All are welcome.



## THE NEWBERRY

Chicago's Independent Research Library Since 1887

Saturday, April 12 12 noon  
*The Newberry Library - D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian  
and Indigenous Studies*

60 West Walton Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610

<https://www.newberry.org/>

RSVP: To [chicagoauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoauw@hotmail.com) by April 10 or text Lori 773 230 1063

Join us for a private presentation from Analú López, the Edward E. Ayer Librarian. She will host AAUW and present from the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Collection. Meet in the lobby. Cost: Free  
Optional lunch at Tempo Cafe, 6 East Chestnut, after the program

Parking garage: 100 West Chestnut Street. Validated parking. (\$12 for up to eight hours)  
Limited metered parking can be found through the Park Chicago app.  
Various CTA Buses: #22, #70, #66, #36, #156

The Newberry's Edward E. Ayer collection is one of the largest collections of books and manuscripts on American Indian and Indigenous Studies in the world.

In 1911, the Newberry received more than 17,000 items related to Indigenous peoples from collector and trustee Edward E. Ayer. Like many Americans at the time, Ayer subscribed to the belief that American Indians were a “vanishing race.” Incorrectly assuming that American Indian peoples would eventually cease to exist, Ayer urgently collected items about their histories and cultures. Building on Ayer’s original gift, we’ve expanded the collection to include more and more materials representing Native writers, artists, and activists from throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The Newberry Library is an independent research library, specializing in the humanities. It has been free and open to the public since 1887.

### **President’s Message**

*Thank you to all members for participating in our recent programs. In January, we had our program on financial literacy, part of AAUW’s mission. Thank you to Kris Wano and Christina Casteljon for presenting to the branch on financial planning and retirement. We all learned some tips and suggestions as women are living longer and will need to plan.*

*Last week, members and guests enjoyed a private tour of the DuSable Museum in honor of Black History month. The tour was informative. Thank you to Pamela Sanner for planning and organizing the branch private tour of the DuSable Museum.*

We have a lot planning for Spring. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend one more event than you did last year. We love seeing and catching up with our friends and fellow members. Also feel free to bring a friend, spouse or relative to any event. It is a great way to introduce AAUW to friends and join an outing or program.

Don't forget to make a reservation for the AAUW-IL State Convention in April in Springfield at the Northfield Inn. Convention registration and hotel reservations are now open. Branch members can carpool to Springfield or take the train as a branch. The conventions are a great way to meet members from around the state and learn national initiatives.  
<https://northfieldinn.com/>

Best – Lori Switzer  
Chicago Branch Admin

### ***Meeting/Activities Dates and Topics***

***March 15 – Domestic Violence program via zoom***

***March 29 – 17<sup>th</sup> Annual SWAN Day program – Private screening – AMC Theatre Evanston***

***April 12 – Newberry Library program - American Indian and Indigenous Studies Collection***

***April 25- 26 – AAUW-IL State convention Springfield, IL***

***June 7– Chicago branch 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary luncheon at Osteria Via Stato***

**OSTERIA  
VIA STATO®**

***Looking Ahead – Celebrate Chicago Branch 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

The branch is also celebrating our 135 Anniversary this year!! Save the date for Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. We will have our Year End Meeting and 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at Osteria Via Stato 11:30am in River North. Parking available in the Embassy Suite Hotel 620 N State St, Chicago. Please RSVP [Chicagoaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:Chicagoaauw@hotmail.com)



***Chicago Branch Treasurer Report – Megan Moser***

As of February 1, 2025

Branch checking account balance: \$3,072.14

Fidelity branch savings account: \$13,294.56

# THE BARB YONG EQUAL PAY SCHOLARSHIP



**Scholarship Amount: \$1,000**

**Application Deadline: March 1, 2025**

## Who Should Apply?

Students from Chicago who have a passion for promoting equal rights and ending discrimination. If you believe in a fair and just society, no matter where you are on your journey to making a meaningful impact, this scholarship may be for you!



Learn more about the Equal Pay Chicago Coalition & apply at:

[equalpaychicago.org](https://equalpaychicago.org)

## Barb Yong Scholarship Contest!

Barb Yong founded this coalition in 2009, laying the foundation for our collective fight to eliminate the wage gap. To honor her incredible contributions, we've named this contest after her, ensuring her legacy lives on by supporting the next generation of changemakers.

### About the Scholarship:

This \$1,000 scholarship, awarded by EPCC, is designed to empower college students from Chicago who are passionate about advancing social justice, gender equity, racial justice, education access, and workers' rights.

### Key Details:

- **Application Deadline:** March 1, 2025
- **Eligibility:**
  - Graduated from a high school in Chicago
  - Currently pursuing (or about to pursue) a two- or four-year college degree (Graduate students not eligible)
  - Steering Committee members of EPCC, employees of Women Employed, and their family members are not eligible

- Part-time and undocumented students are encouraged to apply
- **Application:** <https://equalpaychicago.org/scholarship>

We need your help to spread the word and empower the next generation of leaders!

***Stay Connected: Re-Subscribe to AAUW Emails***

Do you think a member may be missing out on vital updates and important announcements from AAUW? Don't let valuable information slip through the cracks! Ensure they stay connected with us by re-subscribing to AAUW emails. Simply forward this link - [aauw.us/emailoptions](http://aauw.us/emailoptions), to the member to re-subscribe and guarantee that they receive all the latest news, webinars, and opportunities from AAUW.

***Branch Steering Committee Meeting – March 10***

We will meet on Monday, March 10 at 6:30pm via zoom. All are welcome to attend. We are looking for more members to join our steering committee. You can be as involved as your schedule allows. We meet the second Monday of each month. Please join the next meeting or email Lori [chicagoauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoauw@hotmail.com)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81297426120?pwd=C9eJyebaNVuxQkN6VmyqJbFloEbPUZ.1>

***Daytime Book Club next meeting – Wed. March 19***

Do you like to read? If so, join us for the daytime book club on **Wed. March 19** via zoom at 1:00pm. We will be discussing *Women in the Valley of the Kings: The Untold Story of Women Egyptologists* by Kathleen Shephard. Here is the Zoom link for the March 19 Book Club meeting. No need to register in advance.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83899924106?pwd=rBGsGWaUKyLit1b68o1OjeCMn70kb6.1>

**Upcoming Books 2025**

**April 16-** *The Cliffs* by J Courtney Sullivan - leader Donna Zimmerman

**May 21** - *By Any Other Name* by Jodi Picoult - leader Barb Yong

**June 18** - *The Women* by Kristin Hannah - leader Margaret Rohter

**July 16** - *The Wilds: A Novel in Five Acts* by Louis Bayard - leader Helen Elkiss

**August 20** - *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese - leader Barb Yong

Feel free to attend online even if you don't have time to read and bring some suggestions for future books. Any questions, please contact our chair, Lori at [chicagoauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoauw@hotmail.com)

***The Chicago Edition by Lori Switzer***

Is there something you want to see in the newsletter? It is your newsletter. Articles for the April Chicago Edition newsletter is due March . 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks - Lori Switzer 773/230-1063 or [ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com](mailto:ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com)



**Mission Statement of AAUW:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

**Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

**Vision Statement:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW membership is open to any graduate who holds an associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution or a baccalaureate of higher degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

AAUW's **Legal Advocacy Fund** provides funding and support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

AAUW National website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW-IL website: <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

Chicago branch website: <http://chicago-il.aauw.net>

For more information, contact us: [chicagoaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoaauw@hotmail.com)

**Join the Chicago branch on Facebook:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=16337662299&ref=mf>

**Join the Chicago branch on Instagram:**

<http://www.instagram.com/aauwchicago>



Lori Switzer, editor  
AAUW Newsletter  
2541 Ridgeway Ave  
Evanston, IL 60201

*Address correction requested*

*Chicago, IL branch was founded in 1889. This is our 135<sup>th</sup> year!!*