



April 2021 *Update* Newsletter

In April, in lieu of a general meeting, our branch will participate in the AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting Events Sunday, April 18th, 1 pm and Tuesday, April



**20th, 7 pm
via Zoom**

Keynote & Business, Sunday, April 18, 2021

12:45 p.m. Log in, make Zoom adjustments, Social Time

1:00 p.m. MEETING OPENS



Keynote Speaker:

Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County Commissioner

Click [HERE](#) to register for the **Keynote & Business meeting**.

Awards Celebration, Tuesday, April 20, 2021

6:45 pm Log in, make Zoom adjustments, Social Time

7:00 pm MEETING OPENS



Guest Speaker: Alexandra Vargas Quinones
AAUW International Fellow

Click [HERE](#) to register for the Awards Celebration.

Every Voice Matters

Between April 7th and May 17th, AAUW members will vote on a long-standing membership requirement, which creates a barrier to women who do not hold a college degree. By eliminating this requirement, AAUW can become a more diverse and inclusive organization, better aligned with the needs of women today.

1. The reasons we should drop the education requirement are simply: **Because it is the right thing to do and Because it is in keeping with our mission to advance gender equity**
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2. Eliminating the degree requirement will bring AAUW membership criteria in line with its mission – to advance gender equity.
3. Greater diversity can only strengthen AAUW and our ability to advance equity.
4. Times have changed and society has changed. AAUW strives to meet our mission and society's needs today.
5. AAUW empowers women. How does keeping the membership requirement help you empower women?
6. Just like our founding mothers, we can be role models for positive change in the world. But we cannot have the impact we seek when our membership criteria don't match our mission and values.
7. AAUW is unique due to our breadth of programming, research, policy and advocacy, fellowships & grants, and most importantly, a grassroots membership that can be mobilized to fight for what we believe in. We should open this powerful grassroots network up to all who want to join the fight.
8. Education comes in many forms. Those who do not have degrees can still be strong advocates for our mission.
9. AAUW must evolve to survive.
10. It will not affect the honor of having earned a degree in times when so few women attained this achievement. Today, with women outpacing men in earning all degrees for decades, we can be proud that we were instrumental in breaking down the barriers for women who followed us.

We need all members to vote!

The national vote **will not count one way or the other unless we have 5 percent of all AAUW National members taking part.** Of

the 5 percent, we need a two-thirds majority to change the membership requirement.

If you would like to join in the dialogue about this change at the AAUW National level, you can click [HERE](#) to register for the 1 pm, April 1st, National Town Hall.

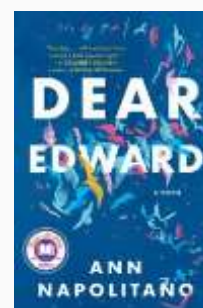
Click [HERE](#) for many interesting facts and talking points on this subject from the AAUW National Board of Directors.

Book Club

Dear Edward by Ann Napolitano

4/27/2021 @ 7:00 pm. Leader - Judy
Silverforb

The story of a boy who is the lone survivor
of a plane crash and his coming of age.



The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

5/25/2021 @ 7:00 pm. Leader - Dorothy
Wilson

A fiction bestseller about light-skinned black
twins who take separate paths as adults
with one living her identity as a woman of
color and the other passing as white.

Save the date for the next general meeting:
Wednesday, May 12, 7 p.m. via Zoom
**Oregon Climate Progress:
Improving the lives of Oregonians**



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