



# THE LEADER

empowering women since 1881

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## Special Points of Interest

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## **What's Happening with AAUW in Oklahoma!**

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## **STATE CONVENTION FEATURED AAUW CEO, KIMBERLY CHURCHES**

Thirty-five AAUW members from all over the state of Oklahoma gathered in Tulsa at the Post Oak Lodge on June 29 – 30, 2018 for the AAUW/OK Biennial State Convention and Business Meeting. Hosted by AAUW Tulsa and featuring AAUW Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kimberly Churches, the meeting brought members up-to-date on state and national issues impacting women and girls, from state education funding to Title IX, and from Oklahoma's record-setting Incarceration of women to AAUW's national strategic plan.



Conference Keynote Speaker:  
Kimberly Churches, AAUW Chief Executive Officer

Before the convention began on Saturday, members met for dinner at Tulsa's iconic Dilly Diner and boarded a trolley for an evening historical tour of Tulsa, including Boston Avenue United Methodist Church (designed by a local female teacher), the tunnels beneath downtown Tulsa's landmark Art Deco buildings, Riverside Drive, Black Wall Street, and other unique sites in the city.

On Saturday, members were welcomed by state co-presidents Angie Lewis, Chickasha branch, and Rose Unterschuetz, Tulsa branch. Liz Waggoner, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Women's Coalition, provided a state legislative update, focusing on successful efforts to expand paid family leave to all state employees, prohibiting criminals from living within 2,000 feet of their victims, eliminating the shackling of pregnant female prisoners while they are in labor, and providing Oklahomans access to help for opioid addiction. Northeastern State University (NSU) Title IX Coordinator, Allan Ford, Tahlequah branch, discussed the history of the historic federal act, the Obama-era guidance, and the possible impact of the Trump administration on Title IX protections, especially for victims of sexual assault.



NSU Title IX Coordinator, Allan Ford, explains Title IX and answers questions about the important topic.

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**Legal Advocacy Funds**  
*Open***Here is What's Happening with AAUW in Oklahoma!****Alva**

Nothing to report.

**Chickasha**

The Chickasha branch will have our annual Holiday dinner out and attend the Chickasha Community Theater's Christmas production, "Dashing Through the Snow". The branch will be participating in the Friends of the Library Chocolate Celebration in February. Submitted by Angie Lewis

**Duncan**

The Duncan branch kicked off their year with a discussion about the Gender Pay Gap. The members shared their personal encounters with this subject. The branch has also established a scholarship for a female high school student to be awarded in the spring. As a way to secure funding for the scholarship, the members sold bags of chicken noodle soup. Sales were great, so great that additional bags had to be prepared. Our next meeting will be to tour the new science lab at Cameron University – Duncan.

Submitted by Cyndi Crook

**Durant**

Nothing to report.

**Edmond**

At the state convention, all the members of the Edmond branch in attendance were standing at the front while Shelli Wasson and Diana Campo presented the "Edmond Girls' Hall of Honor" to the state members. Each branch member was able to tell what she does for this event. It takes all of us working hard to put our event together. Erma Stewart, founder of the Girls' Hall of Honor, was unable to attend the convention. Everyone at the state convention was provided a copy of the guide for conducting a "Girls' Hall of Honor" in your city or county. Contact Shelli Wasson if you need another copy or advice/help on how to start this in your area. Another school district in Oklahoma County is considering adding this event in 2019-2020. Please keep Shelli Wasson informed about any Girls' Hall of Honor events happening across the state. We are keeping track of everything so when we submit a grant application to fund this program, we will have complete up-to-date information.

Mark your calendars: The Edmond Girls' Hall of Honor will be Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Edmond Public Library. Everyone is welcome to attend and see what impactful things 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls are doing and what leaders they are becoming.

Submitted by Shelli Wasson

## Tahlequah

**Join AAUW Tahlequah in raising funds for its Graduate Woman Scholarship at Northeastern State University.** Each year, we award one scholarship to an outstanding graduate woman. Help us continue to propel this local embodiment of the AAUW mission to advance women's education. Our Fall for Scholarships fundraiser is 100% online! Help us out in three easy steps:

1. Visit AAUW Tahlequah on Facebook at [facebook.com/AAUWTahlequah](https://facebook.com/AAUWTahlequah). Say that you are "going" to the "Fall for Scholarships" event to help spread the word and stay up to date on the fundraiser. If you cannot afford to give, share and invite friends who are passionate about women's education to the event.

2. Give! We have a few options:

- **For 100% tax-deductible gifts:**

Give online at [nsugiving.com/donate](https://nsugiving.com/donate) and note "AAUW Scholarship" in the comments.

- Mail a check to the NSU Foundation at: 812 N. Cedar Ave. Tahlequah, OK 74464
- This year is the 80th anniversary of the Tahlequah Branch, so the suggested donation is \$8.00, but any amount is welcome.

**Purchase a beautiful wreath for yourself and/or as a gift** at [tinyurl.com/aauwwreaths](https://tinyurl.com/aauwwreaths). They're delivered straight to your door, beautifully fragrant, and last the entire holiday season.

3. Join us for a celebration to **thank you** for your donation at Vidalia's from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. on November 1.

If you have any questions, email Molly Turner at [turnerm@nsuok.edu](mailto:turnerm@nsuok.edu) or Peggy Glenn at [glennum@nsuok.edu](mailto:glennum@nsuok.edu).

Submitted by Molly Turner

## Tulsa

### Program Schedule for 2018-2019:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| October 12       | Hispanic Heritage Month   |
| November 9       | Wine/Cheese Fundraiser<br><br>Proceeds benefit the Sage STEAM Camp at SWOSU.        |
| December 15      | Holiday Tea   |
| January 12, 2019 | "Nanyehi", Cherokee film about Nancy Ward,<br>known as a "War Woman and Peacemaker" |
| February 9       | Black History Month   |
| March 9          | Women's History Project   |
| April 13         | Sexual Assault Awareness  |
| May 11           | Installation of Officers  |

The Tulsa branch has three Interest Groups that bring members together that share a common interest.

- Adelante Reading Group
- Mystery Book Group
- Gourmet Group

## AAUW/OK State Board 2018-2020

- continued

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## Customer Service

800.326.AAUW (2289)  
Monday-Friday, 10am to 5pm ET

## Weatherford

August 24 & 25: Hosted a fundraiser garage sale to raise money for SWOSU student scholarships.

August 30: Hosted a joint table at the SWOSU Organization Fair with the AAUW@SWOSU student branch to raise awareness about AAUW's mission and how to become a branch or student member.

September 8: Held a meet-and-greet on the SWOSU campus with coffee from the Bulldog Beanery and a poster presentation by the SWOSU student member who went to NCWSSL.

October 13: Held a joint event with the AAUW@SWOSU student branch and SWOSU freshmen who volunteered for the inaugural year of "SWOSU Serves" to make baskets for SWOSU dorms and goody bags for Miss SWOSU participants to raise breast cancer awareness.



Baskets were put together by the SWOSU Student branch and SWOSU freshmen for the Miss SWOSU participants to raise awareness of breast cancer.

October 25: Dawgtoberfest--the Student Branch will participate by hosting a Face Painting booth, and recruit new members

October 30: Will host a community forum featuring updates on upcoming election issues as presented by SWOSU President Randy Beutler.

November 5: NCCWSL information meeting--Students who have attended NCCWSL will share their stories and answer questions about the conference. A follow meeting is planned for December to work on completing the NCCWSL scholarship forms from AAUW.

November 7: Will host a luncheon featuring the research focus of SWOSU Arts, Communication, and Theatre faculty member, Jessica Salmans, about the performing arts during the Holocaust.

December: The year will end with the branch's annual Holiday potluck dinner and "dirty Santa" gift exchange.

Find us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWatSWOSU/>

Submitted by Lisa Appeddu

## Attention: Student Branches

The AAUW@SWOSU group is interested in a spring/summer leadership conference for student branches. Please contact Lori Gwyn ([lorigwyn@gmail.com](mailto:lorigwyn@gmail.com)) or Nora Pugh Seemster if your student branch is interested in meeting with other Oklahoma student branches.

## SAGE STEAM CAMP

The very first Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (SAGE STEAM) camp was held June 17 to 23 on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) campus in Weatherford, OK. Fifty, rising eighth grade girls from 26 different counties across Oklahoma graduated from the inaugural year. Changes from Tech Trek included conducting all workshops so that all campers could experience all activities; adding/emphasizing the arts to promote communication, creativity, and teamwork; and updating professional etiquette and career workshops (now known as the STEAMentor event) to make them more interactive, informative, and personalized for each girl.

The SAGE STEAM Team appreciates the contributions of AAUW Oklahoma in ensuring the success of this first year of camp. AAUW/OK members helped to raise awareness of the new camp in their local schools, which resulted in a record number of 179 girls being nominated by teachers. They helped to conduct phone interviews of the 152 girls who ended up applying to camp. Members from the Weatherford branch remained integrally involved in the planning and execution of the camp. AAUW members from Edmond, Duncan, Weatherford, and the state board donated over \$3000 of the \$50,000 needed to conduct the 2018 camp. AAUW/OK members also attended the camp open house on Enrichment Day on June 20 and presented the AAUW MVP award to the Lavender dorm group recipient at the Awards & Graduation Program on June 23.

The SAGE STEAM Team is already working on the second year of camp and hopes AAUW Oklahoma will continue to be involved. Weatherford branch members represented the camp at the inaugural Oklahoma Women Impacting STEM and Entrepreneurship Conference on September 14, and will host a table at the Women in Science Conference on October 23. Members from the Tulsa and Edmond branches have already donated \$1200 towards the 2019 camp. Tax-deductible donations may be made via the SWOSU Foundation. There is the

option to donate online via credit card by going to <https://standingfirmly.com/givetoswosu> and selecting "SAGE STEAM camp" in the drop down menu. Checks may also be written to the SWOSU Foundation with SAGE STEAM in the memo, and sent to Dr. Lori Gwyn, OSP Director, 100 Campus Drive, Weatherford, OK 73096. Member donations make it possible to offer this camp for a cost of only \$100 to camper families in order to reduce financial barriers. The SAGE STEAM Team also appreciates the time, dedication, and expertise that AAUW/OK members contribute in helping to identify, teach, and inspire Oklahoma girls who may not otherwise have such opportunities.

For more information, visit the website (where social media links are also found) at <http://www.swosu.edu/academics/sage-steam-camp/>, email [sageteamcamp@gmail.com](mailto:sageteamcamp@gmail.com), or call Camp Director Lisa Appeddu at 580-774-3148.

## \*Thank you, AAUW/OK:

- Raised awareness of camp for teacher nominations in your communities
- Provided STEAM contacts
- Helped to conduct phone interviews
- Experienced Enrichment Day
- Represented AAUW at Awards & Graduation Program
- OK State Board and Branch Members contributed over \$2500



Submitted by Lisa Appeddu

## Oklahoma Women Impacting STEM and Entrepreneurship Conference

Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with representatives from large companies, entrepreneurial support organizations, investors, research organizations and grant-funding agencies. OK-WISE will also include poster presentations for researchers in STEM fields to share their work with leaders from around the state and demonstrate their impact.  
[www.ou.edu/price/news\\_center/news\\_archive/2018/ok-wise](http://www.ou.edu/price/news_center/news_archive/2018/ok-wise) 11/01/2018



(l to r) Lisa Appeddu, Kristin Flaming and Lori Gwyn.



The AAUW Award at the Sage STEM Camp Awards Ceremony was presented to Mustang student, Olivia Fenimore. Presenters were Edmond branch members Diana Campo and Shelli Wasson.



**Olivia Fenimore**  
Mustang Middle School

**2018  
Most Valuable  
Participant:  
LAVENDER DORM GROUP**



The Tulsa branch was founded in 1918. The framed 100th Anniversary certificate is shown.  
 (l to r) Linda Brooks; Pam MacDonald, Tulsa Branch President; Kimberly Churches, AAUW CEO; Rose Unterschuetz, state co-president.

**Update on the Slate of Officers for AAUW Oklahoma:** The slate was approved by mailed ballots (email and paper ballots). At the State Convention, Susan Hull volunteered for the President-Elect position that was OPEN.

### Susan M. Hull, M.D.

I own and operate my rural healthcare clinic The Medical Clinic in Waynoka, Oklahoma and ranch with my husband, Dwight. We have three children and 2 grandchildren. After finishing my biology degree at Northwestern Oklahoma State University I began my journey at 43 years of age to be a specialist in Internal Medicine and successfully graduated from The University of Kansas School of Medicine in 2008. I attended my residency at KU Internal Medicine in Wichita, Kansas 2008-2011 and upon completion built my clinic in a small rural community in NW Oklahoma. The Alva AAUW branch was supportive in my endeavors to pursue my graduate degree and I am forever grateful. I am fortunate to now be part of the AAUW mission and I look forward to the impact we as an advocacy group can make in our State and Nation. Advocacy is a passion for me and most likely stems from my childhood being raised in an orphanage and later in foster care. I have always been one to look at any situation positively and with great thought before moving forward. Ethics and dedicated work habits has been the backbone of my upbringing which continues to serve me well. My childhood was spent mainly in rural Wyoming and I learned an appreciation for the outdoors and reading. I have grown to love Oklahoma and its people and look forward to being part of the change for equal pay and opportunity for not only women but all.



- AAUW State President-Elect
- AAUW Alva STEM Committee
- Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA) Co-Chair of the Rural Physician Section 2017-2018, 2018-2019
- OSMA Chair Rural Physician Section, 2016-2017
- OSMA Vice Chair, 2015-2016
- OSMA Board of Trustee
- OSMA National Advocacy Delegate 2019, 2017, 2016
- Rural Health Association of Oklahoma Board, Member
- National Physician Council on Healthcare Policy and Reform, Member
- American College of Physicians, Member
- American Medical Association, Member
- American Medical Women's Association
- Physicians Against Drug Shortages, Member
- Oklahoma Home and Community Education Lone Star President-Elect 2019

## State Convention, continued from page 1

Donna Matthews (Tulsa), chief operating officer of Domestic Violence Intervention Services, shared valuable information on human trafficking that has occurred in Oklahoma, as well as resources available to victims of these crimes. Over lunch, Neha Gelani with Paradigm Shift shared her story of immigration from India to the U.S. and her pathway to citizenship, encouraging members to be persistent, never give up, and after identifying a big goal, keep refining it so that it becomes something even bigger.

Following lunch, the Edmond branch shared materials they developed to create their Girl's Hall of Honor program to identify and honor young leaders within Edmond's local middle schools. The Weatherford branch shared photos and stories from their new SAGE STEAM Camp for middle school girls, which has evolved from the AAUW-funded TechTrek to now include the arts.

Susanne Schreiber, president of the Tulsa Public School Board, shared an update on Tulsa Public School funding and her concerns about charter school standards and accountability. After conducting a state business meeting, which included nomination and approval of state officers for 2018-2020 and approval of proposed state by-law changes, members heard from AAUW CEO, Kimberly Churches, who discussed the organization's new mission, vision, and values (at <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/> ), and its renewed focus on education and training, economic security, and women's leadership roles throughout all sectors of society.

Following a casual reception for Churches hosted by the Tulsa branch and dinner at the Post Oak Lodge, participants viewed the award-winning documentary, "Mankiller," about the Cherokee Nation's first female chief.

A silent auction of baskets provided by local branches netted \$570 for AAUW Funds. The Walk, Run, Sleep-in to raise funds for Eleanor Roosevelt Fund raised \$400. These two fundraisers were very successfully organized by Edmond branch members Pat Snodgrass and Diana Campo.

- ♦ Digital copies of the convention program and selected handouts are available upon request from former State Vice President of Programs, Peggy Glenn at [peggy.glen@aol.com](mailto:peggy.glen@aol.com). Be sure to join AAUW/OK at our next biennial convention (and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of women's right to vote) in 2020!

Submitted by Peggy Glen

## Membership Matters

Recruit, Recruit, Recruit! Grow our membership to further our efforts for equity and education for all women and girls.

Invite a friend to 'join' you as you work on an AAUW project or participate in a planning session for an event - the participation may be the action that sparks a commitment to AAUW.

What is your membership goal? Each member has membership responsibility - one guest at a time! One guest is a potential member at any given moment.

Diana Campo, Membership Vice President



Making a planned gift to AAUW is a simple way to support our mission and leave a lasting impact.

### Benefits of Estate Giving

- Estate gifts allow you flexibility to provide for your family and support AAUW.
- Bequests do not affect your cash flow during your lifetime.
- Certain planned gifts may reduce estate or capital gains taxes.
- There is no minimum gift requirement, and every gift can be tailored to suit your specific wishes.

For more information and giving options, please call AAUW's planned giving office at 877.357.5587.



AAUW/OK

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National website

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

## AAUW Career Development Grant

### Connection to Oklahoma:



Name: [Krystal Wright](#)

Award Year: 2018-19

Award: Career Development Grant

Institution: University of Central Oklahoma

Location: Edmond, Oklahoma

Discipline: Health and medical sciences

Degree and Specialization: M.S., Nutrition and food science.

Krystal Wright served as a community health and outreach promoter in Namibia for the U.S. Peace Corps from April 2016 to June 2018. As a nutrition professional, she plans to focus her work on minorities living with chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and HIV/AIDS while motivating individuals toward their nutritional goals. Wright will be pursuing a master's degree in nutrition and food science at the University of Central Oklahoma.

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