

# Cherokee Rose Newsletter



*March 2019*

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AAUW of Georgia 2019 Spring Convention will take place on April 12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> in Atlanta. There will be a cocktail reception on Friday evening from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

Registration will start at 9:00 AM on Saturday, and will be followed by a program with guest speakers and the annual state business meeting. There will be an election of new officers, as well as important national and branch news to share.

Our guest speaker from national, Gloria Blackwell, will visit and share some key initiatives AAUW has embarked upon and is eager to promote. Additionally, we are fortunate to have an LAF plaintiff

## **Hilton Garden Inn Wildwood**

**3045 Windy Hill Road**

**Atlanta, GA 30339**

**770-953-8850**



A registration form is included in the newsletter and the registration fee is \$40.00. the Hilton Garden Inn has reserved a block of 10 rooms for AAUW. The deadline to reserve at a \$139 discount is March 28<sup>th</sup>. Please call the hotel (770-953-8850) before the deadline and let them know you are with AAUW and use **code: YET/ type: SMERF**.

## GUEST SPEAKERS:



### **Gloria L. Blackwell**

Senior Vice President of Fellowships & Programs

As the senior vice president of fellowships & programs, Gloria is responsible for designing and implementing initiatives to expand women's and girls' opportunities in nontraditional spaces through leadership and oversight of \$4 million in fellowships and grant programs; designing and executing a comprehensive set of programs to reshape girls' and women's experiences in educational and career settings; and direction of

the organization-wide integration of fellowships and programs into every dimension of strategic and operational planning. Gloria also serves as AAUW's UN main representative, leading global initiatives implemented through collaborations with UN bodies and global coalitions.

Before joining AAUW in 2004 she was the director of Africa education programs at the Institute of International Education (IIE). She also managed fellowships programs during her decade at IIE and has held positions as a Peace Corps staff member and volunteer in Africa. She holds a master's degree in education and human development from the George Washington University, a bachelor's degree in international affairs from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, and studied at the American University in Paris. Gloria is committed to supporting opportunities and empowerment for women and girls globally.

### **Dr. Zoe Spencer:**

LAF Plaintiff / Spencer v. VSU (Adopted 2017)



“The admonition has always been, how dare I use my voice. How dare I speak out for others? But, most importantly, how dare I challenge and resist patriarchal and sexist oppression in the fight for equality. Most will not yield to a voice. Instead, they ensure that the *cost* of speaking/fighting takes everything from those who often only have a little. *That* is the silencing strategy.”  
— Zoe Spencer, Ph.D.

Zoe Spencer, Ph.D., was the Gender Equity Task Force chair at Virginia State University, but she alleges she's been retaliated against for identifying deficits in gender equity, including unfair pay for herself and other women faculty.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS: NOMINEE BIOS**

### **WILHEMENIA SIBLEY: CO-PRESIDENT**



Wilhemenia Sibley has accepted the opportunity to serve as Co-President of AAUW Georgia 2019-2021. Wilhemenia has been an AAUW member for over 40 years and served in multiple leadership positions in AAUW and with the Houston-Peach Branch. She is an instructor at Fort Valley State University and has recently been installed in a leadership position for the Links, Inc. Community Service Organization. We appreciate the level of experience and expertise that Wilhemenia will bring with her as Co-President and support to current Co-President Beatriz Potter, who will be moving into the second year of her term (2018-2020) as Co-President of AAUW of Georgia.

### **SHARON DAWSON: TREASURER**



Sharon had a long career in human services and has been retired for five years. She has an undergraduate degree in management and graduate degree in Human Services. As well as AAUW GA, she serves as Finance Chair of her church and also facilitates a Women's Bible Study. She is the current recording secretary for the Houston-Peach Branch. She volunteers as a tax aide with AARP and most important of all, is a wife of 47 years to husband Mike, mother to two wonderful sons and "GoGo" to three grandchildren.

Sharon has graciously offered to serve a second term (2019-2021) as treasurer for AAUW of Georgia.

### **BEATRIZ POTTER: CURRENT CO-PRESIDENT 2018-2020**



Dr. Beatriz Potter has been an active member of the Valdosta AAUW Affiliate group for almost two decades. She has served as Membership VP, Program VP and two terms as President; 2008-2009 and 2015 -2017. She also held the Diversity, and Bylaws and Policies appointed officer position, and was the Sister to Sister chair in 2009. At the state level, she served as a Diversity chair and has attended GA AAUW Board meetings and conventions. As a Co-president of the GA AAUW, she will continue sharing her passion and energy for AAUW's mission while serving at the state level.

Dr. Potter has more than 30 years of high-level experience as a teacher, researcher, research manager, technical consultant, and business professional. Her academic achievements include a BA in Business Administration from the University of South Florida and M.Ed. and Ed.D. Degrees in Instructional Technology and Curriculum and Instruction Development from Valdosta State University (VSU). Currently Dr. Potter is a senior lecturer in the VSU Spanish, Spanish for Professionals Program and ESOL in the Modern and Classical Language Department.

*Many thanks go to members of the nominating committee (Marlene Humphry, Debbie Karvey, Pat Bevis, Erma Banks and Beverly Richardson-Blake) for their efforts in finding a leadership team for AAUW Georgia's future.*



## **PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES**

Additional information will be shared at convention.

Many thanks to Diana Witt who has provided a list of bills that are relevant to AAUW's mission and goals: B 5 provisions would reduce the gender pay gap

- HB 8 repeals the current tax on feminine hygiene products
- HB 37 would allow expansion of Medicaid
- HB62: Health insurance coverage for dense breast tissue exams. (Dense breast tissue is a sign of increased breast cancer risk)
- HB 234 This is a continuation of past success on the sex trafficking issue. It establishes age 18 as the age of consent in prostitution prosecutions. Previously, there was no age limit.
- HB 282 Guarantees preservation and analysis of rape kits. A previous practice allowing rape kits to "expire" (letting rapists off the hook), would be abolished
- HBs 331 and 359 Continues and expands protections concerning violence against women and family violence
- HB 345 Protects and insures adequate health care for pregnant incarcerated women
- SBs, 36, 106 also call for Medicaid expansion. So there is legislation in both houses on this.
- SRs 55 and 66 call for ratification of the ERA.

I hope all of you will take the time to contact your House and Senate representatives about at least one of these issues. I know everyone is busy, but these women worked hard to get elected, don't let their efforts be in vain.

LWVGA provides weekly updates with "Under the Gold Dome"...



## AAUW GA 2019 SPRING CONVENTION REGISTRATION

The Registration fee of **\$40** includes a hot lunch buffet and drinks for the Friday night reception. **Students** are encouraged to attend and registration is **\$20**. Attendance numbers need to be provided no later than April 5, so plan to register early. Send registration form and fee (make checks payable to Georgia AAUW) to:

Yetta McMillan

5998 Tate Drive, Austell, GA 30106

678-596-5721 / yettamcmillan@att.net

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Registration form for Saturday, April 13, 2019

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER/CHAIR/OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_