

AAUW January 2025 Newsletter

Loveland, Colorado

**The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls
Through advocacy, education and research.**

A note from president Karla Marroquin:

Happy New Year Everyone!

Our Loveland Branch is alive and well, and I thank you all for being a part of AAUW. As we head into another year, we continue to keep AAUW's mission in the forefront: advance equity for women and children through advocacy, education, and research. I can think of several ways we attained these goals in 2024 through our programs and participation in community events. To name a few: Juneteenth, Pride, Martin Luther King, Loveland Museum programs - AAUW members attended and were a presence in the Loveland community. There was a very good turnout at The Landing tour where we donated winterwear as our Christmas charity for homeless youth who will reside at the shelter. Several of our members attended the tour of the new location of ChildSafe. We are further connected to the community through our monthly programs. Our interest groups such as Great Decisions, Book Club, Hiking group, Coffee, Conversations and Crafts not only provide interesting and fun endeavors, but bind us together creating friendships. Our socials – the August Picnic and the Christmas party were very well attended and a good time was had by all. The tools that provide the “meat” of our branch are our different committees: scholarship, flower sale, website, programs, and conversations with authors. A heartfelt thank you to the board and committee members who keep the machinery functioning.

Last year brought 6 new members bringing our membership to 43! Our two fundraising events, Flower Sale and Conversations with Authors, plus \$1090 in donations from members and non-members, provided three \$1,000 scholarships. Thank you for those extra donations! The scholarship committee has been meeting since last fall and is revamping the process. As they move forward there will be updates on progress. Let's really get out there this spring selling flowers! We need participation from every member to make this sale worthwhile and provide those scholarships to deserving women. Donations, as mentioned, are also graciously accepted.

So I look forward to another great year, and yes, another fun year with friends!

January Program

Our regular meeting is at 6:30 pm, January 27 at First United Methodist Church, 533 Grant St. Our speaker will be Brett Steward, assistant to the Loveland City Manager, discussing the city's Climate Action and Sustainability Task Force. We have a new entry code for the church this year – 03720. Do **not** share this over social media.

Those interested in socializing and eating and/or drinking before the meeting are invited to gather at the Pourhouse Bar & Grill at 124 E. 4th St. in downtown Loveland around 4:15.

News about Dan Danbom

Many of you enjoyed reading Dan's book [I Met Another Dead Man Today](#) and/or hearing him speak at Conversations with Authors. He recently won "Runner Up" in the Memoir category at the Southern California Book Festival – <https://southerncaliforniabookfestival.com>

Scholarship Fund

If you are tired of receiving gifts from family that you don't want and can't use, please think about asking that a donation be made to our scholarship fund. It would be a wonderful gift that would give twice – once to you and a second time to someone who receives one of our scholarships. A scholarship donation check can be made out to **AAUW Loveland** and sent to our Treasurer, Teri Smith. In the memo portion of the check, the donor should write Scholarship Donation. Teri's mailing address is 3007 Douglas Avenue, Loveland 80538.

Volunteers for The Landing

Many of us visited The Landing, the new youth shelter. If you are interested in seeing the volunteer opportunities there the volunteer coordination is sarah@thematthewshouse.org That link also shows some of the Amazon list of items needed for the shelter. You can also apply to volunteer here <https://www.thematthewshouse.org/support/>

ChildSafe

A few of us visited the new Loveland Campus for ChildSafe on East 1st St. on the second floor of the former New Visions School location and were amazed to hear of the work they will be doing. This is a location for children and families who are dealing with the trauma from child abuse and child sexual abuse. This is a unique location in a collaborative campus that houses 10 non-profits working with children 0-18 under one roof. Child Safe will have an office, rooms for therapists, a playroom, a kitchen, and an art room, and a meeting room. They have a wish list for supplies for their play room, art room office, etc. Go to the ChildSafe Fort Collins website and look under donate or call 970-472-472-4133 or ask for that list by e-mailing kbaumgardner@childsafecolorado.org

Book Group

Book Group will meet February 3 at 1 pm at the home of Teri Smith, 3007 Douglas Avenue. Each member is urged to bring a book to share briefly about a woman they admire.

Coffee, Crafts, and Conversations

This group which would typically meet on January 20 will **not** meet this month. The next meeting will be February 17 at 1:30 at the home of Claudia Ward, 615 W. 3rd St.

Great Decisions Group

The first foreign policy discussion of the year will take place February 12 at 10 am at the Loveland Library. Jill Osofsky will lead this discussion of America at a Global Crossroads.

Hiking Group

The group will not be hiking this week due to cold weather but will be visiting The Carousel of Happiness in Nederland and having lunch in Nederland afterwards. You have received more specific information from Jan but if you are interested in going and have not contacted her, do so **soon** – wittjl@comcast.com

Colorado Public Policy Day

The theme for this year's public policy day will be Violence Against Women. The US Violence Against Women Act is 30 years old this year. This act provides funding and programs to help the recovery of women victims of violence. The most recent reauthorizations have included indigenous women and LGBTQ persons in those benefits. This Zoom meeting will take place on Saturday February 1 from 9 to noon. We will explore Colorado's legislation to counter Violence Against Women. You will be able to meet CO lawmakers involved and hear their strategies to protect and improve women's lives. You can **register** on the home page of the Colorado AAUW and see more information about speakers.

People's March NoCo (from the 1/14 Reporter Herald)

"Advocates, allies and community members will come together for the People's March, a sister event to the national People's March at 1 pm, Saturday, Jan 18 at Old Town Square in Fort Collins.

The event will start with opening remarks followed by a march through the streets and concludes with a rally back at Old Town Square to champion equality, justice and human rights. The rally will feature speakers including Sen. Janice Marchman and State Rep. Andrew Boesenecker who will speak on immigration, education, and the power of local action for justice and equity."

For more info go to peoplesmarchnoco.com/events

Martin Luther King Event

This celebration will be held at Mountain View High School Auditorium this Thursday evening January 16 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

Asian Lunar New Years – Year of the Snake Event

This free (donations graciously accepted) event sponsored by Heart and Sol will take place Feb. 8 from 6 to 9 pm at The Drake Center, 802 W. Drake Rd. in Fort Collins. It includes cuisine, performances, and a silent auction.