

AAUW Virtual/Online Branches

November 2024.

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State Based Branches

California

AAUW CA Online, ca-online.aauw.net

AAUW California Online, founded in 2001, is the oldest and likely the largest of the virtual/online branches. It carries on its business with a series of email lists - one for branch announcements, one for the branch board, and a third for quarterly branch programs (which have generally moved from email discussion to Zoom since the pandemic). Others for special interest groups (e.g. public policy, book club, technology, DEI) depend on volunteers to manage them and some do sponsor webinar meetings with recordings posted on the website. The branch also participates in AAUW CA projects (e.g. sponsored three virtual Tech Trek campers for 2023-24) and now sponsors monthly Zoom "meet and greet" sessions.

Iowa

AAUW Iowa eNetwork, iowa-online.aauw.net

The AAUW Iowa eNetwork emerged from a strong foundation with Iowa having sponsored statewide virtual meetings starting in the late 2000s. It was chartered as a branch in 2012 with the AAUW Iowa treasurer providing support to manage branch dues with support from at least one member of the other Iowa branches. They are an active branch with monthly meetings (planned a year at a time with postcard reminders) and time at each meeting for members to connect on a personal level.

In more recent years they have also provided leadership for a state program to combat Human Trafficking, work that included producing a brochure to raise awareness about the issues with members and the public, and have a specific non-controversial, non-partisan project to unite members.

Illinois

AAUW Jane Addams (IL) <https://janeaddams-il.aauw.net/>

The AAUW Jane Addams Online Branch was founded in 2010 by Kate Skegg. It currently has around 45 members, mostly dual members, some are out of state. Three board members focus on providing mission-based monthly Zoom programs, also open to non-members, year-round. Most are recorded, with recordings linked to our website. Book discussions, run in conjunction with AAUW-IL state or another branch, are not recorded. Some programs are in collaboration with other branches or organizations e.g. WILPF: Women's International League for Peace & Freedom. A popular annual program, in conjunction with the Chicago Branch, features AAUW Fellows & Grantees.

Dues are just \$10. Communication is via email at aauwjaneaddams@gmail.com (Kate Skegg)

Maryland ?

New Jersey

AAUW Garden State Virtual Branch. aauwnj.org/branches (but aauwnj.org seems to be in flux)

AAUW Garden State was set up to inform those who don't choose to participate in a local branch about statewide AAUW NJ activities, opportunities, and concerns. The branch doesn't meet on a regular basis, except for at state-wide events such as the AAUW NJ Annual Meeting. Members of this Branch have all the privileges of members of other AAUW NJ branches and can attend Inter-Branch programs. Members of this branch can meet for projects or interest groups of their own choosing such as organized lunch get-togethers with a speaker, or book discussion.

For questions about the Garden State Virtual Branch, please contact Garden State Branch President: Sally Goodson, 973-715-4128 sally.goodson1965@gmail.com

New Mexico

AAUW NM Online, newmexico-online.aauw.net/

The AAUW NM Online Branch was established in 2013. It has grown from a tiny ten-member branch to our current membership of about twenty-five. Some of our members are dual members with other NM branches, while others live out of state or have moved from New Mexico and wish to maintain contact.

Our branch meets quarterly. Three meetings are held via zoom on Sunday afternoons and the fourth is an in-person meeting, usually held during the annual State Convention. Each meeting includes an interesting program, followed by a brief business meeting. Our programs this past year ranged from a presentation by Jenifer Rafael-Getz, Executive Director of The New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women to a discussion with Dr. Anna Llobet, an explosives scientist at Los Alamos National Labs and a member of the J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Committee.

Several of our members participate in New Mexico's Tech Trek experience, held at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM and others are members of the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps that represents our state organization at NM's Round House during legislative sessions. Our branch also provides awards and gift cards to the female winners of the New Mexico State Science and Engineering Fair.

New York

AAUW Empire State New York City Branch, empire-ny.aauw.net

A "hybrid" branch since it picked up some of the opportunities of the disbanded NYC branch. It is instrumental in planning events such as the annual virtual celebration of women college presidents and the in-person Girls for STEM conference on a college campus. It has a monthly virtual Great Decisions discussion. It publishes an extensive quarterly newsletter covering AAUW issues at all levels. See also newsletter [archive](#), and the [NYC Fellows video library](#)

North Carolina

AAUW Tar Heel Branch, tarheel.aauwnc.org

Set up as a "lightweight" branch to facilitate communication from

- Members of other NC branches and the NC board
- Stakeholders in other organizations, for whom a "regular" branch is not a good fit but who wish to access AAUW resources
- Those who live far from any of the "community-based" branches but want to connect with AAUW NC.

We use a Google group and a Facebook group to share updates – including virtual programs from AAUW online branches in other states. info@tarheel.aauwnc.org

Ohio

The Ohio branch is inactive, but AAUW OH has a statewide, virtual bookgroup. See the [September newsletter](#) for the calendar.

Oregon

AAUW OR Online Branch, oregononline-or.aauw.net

AAUW Oregon Online, founded in July 2008, is an untraditional branch. The Branch holds four program meetings plus one business meeting per year. Our first meeting last year was a joint meeting with AAUW CA Online presenting a panel of NCCWSL scholarship awardees to talk about their experiences. (See [recording](#).) Our branch has sent a college woman to NCCWSL for the past two years. Between meetings members receive “The Branch Buzz”, the branch newsletter with current news, etc. published by the branch board. In addition, the board hosts a social hour once a month Oregon Online Lounge (OOL) which has no agenda. All branch activities and programs occur online (Zoom). Communications are by email.

Washington

AAUW WA Online Branch, wa-online.aauw.net

WA Online Branch was established in 2008. The purpose of the WA Online branch is to connect members and friends from across Washington state and the United States to the goals, programs, and friendship of AAUW. We do this primarily through our online programs which are promoted to all branches in Washington State and throughout the US. Recent program topics include: The Dobbs Decision; Let Freedom Read: Unprecedented Book Banning Movement; The Climate Crisis, Solutions and Justice; The Brave New World of AI. We’re planning a 2024 Election Debrief platform in November and a program on Gun Policy in February 2025. WA Online also participates in Tech Trek WA by seeking middle school girls who are in school districts not represented by geographically based branches, thus giving more girls the opportunity for the life changing experience of Tech Trek. We try to be a home for anyone who wants to participate in AAUW’s efforts to achieve equity for women and girls.

University Based Branches

UMass Global

UMass Global Virtual Branch, umassglobal-virtual.aauw.net

Note that they are listed as “CA0203-Brandman University Virtual Branch” in AAUW listings. On Saturday, Sept 28, I heard “Sadly, we will be disbanding because of major changes at our

university.” That’s too bad since it would seem that virtual branch possibilities could be a good fit for online universities.

Other Comments (added after the conference)

CO eNetwork

See [summary about the eNetwork](#) from 2018, shortly after it disbanded.