



JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER

empowering women since 1881



### President's Message

Welcome to a new fiscal year. We hope you have enjoyed your summer and are ready to serve the Madison Area community anew. Our program chairs, Ruth and Susan, together with Karen Weiss from the Summit College Club (an AAUW Club) have been planning great things for the coming program year.

First, come meet the distinguished panel of speakers from SparkNJ who will teach us about unrestricted giving. See the announcement about the September 16th Program below. The Program is open to the public and will bring our members together with those of the Summit College Club and the Morristown League of Voters.

### TECH TREK NJ 2024



**BETH KRAWCZUK with Alumna Vivian London (from 8 years ago) and our campers at Stockton University**

**AAUW  
New Jersey Charitable Trust**

July 22, 2024

Dear Becky and  
Members of AAUW NJ Madison Branch,

Thank you for your recent donation to the  
AAUW New Jersey Charitable Trust.

Your gift of **\$2000** was designated for our Tech  
Trek NJ fund, through which the Charitable

The following week begins our book collection of donations from a most generous community for the Semi-Annual Book Sale, also announced below. Collections begin on 9/23 at the Madison Y on King's Rd & at the Kirby Center on East St.

We need our volunteers. Sign ups are open at the VolunteerSignUP.org link which has already landed in your email. The Book Sale will take place on 10/19/24, same day as the community-wide yard sale sponsored the Madison Environmental Commission. Both are effective ways to help our environment by reducing waste in the landfill.

On another note, I wanted to bring to your attention an issue of which you may not be aware. Our branch has two funds - a Project Fund and an Operations Fund. Fundraisers such as the Book Sale or Mahjong Tournament fund our service projects. Operations are mostly funded by membership fees and some voluntary donations.

Currently, the annual membership fee is \$98, divided between National, the NJ Branch and our Branch with only \$16 going to the Branch. By the way, Lifetime members do not pay any membership fee. In addition, the Branch fee has been the same for more than ten years while everything else has gone up.

At the August Board meeting, there was a unanimous vote to raise the Branch fee to \$25 a year. This is more consistent with other local Branches. If you have not yet renewed your membership, do it now and beat the increase! Who does not appreciate a bargain.

*Ann Huber*

Trust manages donations specified for the Tech Trek NJ program.

We work directly with program administrators to transfer these funds as needed to support each Tech Trek NJ program.

As you know, the Charitable Trust seeks to improve the lives of women and girls by advancing AAUW's mission, especially regarding gender equity in education, workplace, and leadership. We have a separate unrestricted Grant Program which supports programs created by AAUWNJ members. Visit <https://aauwnj.org/charitable-trust/> for more information.

Thank you again for your generosity to the Tech Trek NJ program. This STEM program can be life changing for NJ girls and their dreams of a STEM career.

Gratefully,  
*Mary*  
Mary Graves President, AAUW New Jersey Charitable Trust

cc: Claudine Keenan Interim Vice Provost,  
Stockton University

## COME AND MEET OUR GRANT WINNERS:

### TECH TREK CAMPERS

### MATURE WOMEN'S GRANT RECIPIENTS

October 7, 2024 6:30 p.m.  
Madison Community House  
Cook Ave., Madison

A light supper of Pizza and Salad will be served-\$20 pp. If you can, please **Sponsor** one of our grantees or campers when you sign up. Link to follow via email or go to [MadisonAreaAAUW.org](http://MadisonAreaAAUW.org)



## PANEL PRESENTATION SPARKNJ

The Sept 16th meeting will feature a panel discussion led Lisa Barsky Firkser, Ph.D., Moderator, a founding member of SparkNJ.

**SparkNJ** awards annual unrestricted grants in support of Black-led charitable, community, and civic organizations in northern New Jersey. It supports organizations that are already fulfilling their mission but are in need of operating funds to continue to grow.

Panelists are:

-Kareemah Harris Baker, a NJ Child Welfare Administrator for 17 years. She served as a SparkNJ Nominator for 3 years.

-Nadine Wright-Arbubakrr, President and Founder of Nassan's Place. She is a mother and advocate for children with Autism. Nassan's Place received a 2023 SparkNJ grant. Nadine served as a SparkNJ Nominator in 2024.

-A'Dorian Murray-Thomas, is the Founder of the nonprofit SHE Wins, a 2023 SparkNJ grant recipient. This organization provides leadership, career readiness, and other types of training for middle- and high-school girls who have been the victims of violence in their community.

No prior registration required. Open to the public.



**JULIA GRANT**

Graduate student: Hunter College



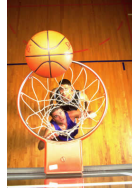
**YEOSUN LEE**

Graduate student: Drew Theological School, Drew University



**DANA LYLE**

Undergraduate Student:  
NJ Institute of Technology



## IN THE NEWS:

Heartfelt Thanks to Christine Hatley of Madison, NJ for her generous donation to our Project Account (funds for our education programs for women and girls such as grants and STEM camp) made in honor of our member Jodi Zwain.

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Happy Birthday to Misty Kramer. Feel free to send her a message. She would love to hear from you:

Marsha (Misty) Kramer  
Morristown Post Acute Rehab  
[77 Madison Avenue, Room 414](#)  
[Morristown, NJ 07960](#)



**ALISSA PACHECO**

Graduate student: Teachers' College  
Columbia University


## CONGRATULATIONS

Join us for 3 days of inspiring speakers, workshops and networking

**Empowering for Equity**  
SEPTEMBER 27 - 29, 2024  
GLEN ALLEN, VIRGINIA

Early bird registration currently open

To learn more and register scan or visit  
[aauatlanticregionalconference.com/](http://aauatlanticregionalconference.com/)



AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference Empowering for Equity



We had a good discussion at Kathleen's house. The reactions to the book were mixed but the plot gave many opportunities for discussion. Thank you to Kathleen for hosting and baking delicious cookies. As always, thanks to Linda who regularly finds great questions and does background research on what we are reading.

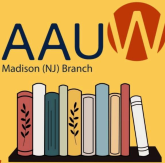
The next Meeting of the Madison Area AAUW Book Club will be held in person and virtually on October 9, 2024. The book (originally to be discussed in September) will be *Recursion* by Blake Crouch. Host will be Ruth Zowader, address and Zoom link will be emailed a few days in advance.




Announcing a \$9 increase in Branch membership fees. Beat the increase. Renew your membership now.

Supporting Education and Equity for Women since 1929, BUT, the best is yet to come.

AAU  
Madison (NJ) Branch



**BOOKS WANTED**



9/23-25/2024  
**DONATIONS\***


@ the YMCA - Kings Rd. Madison  
@ the FM Kirby Ctr - East St. Madison  
*Please NO magazines, encyclopedias,  
textbooks, or damaged books*  
*\*large donation - call 973-476-2751*  
info: AauwMadisonNJ@gmail.com

AAU  
Madison (NJ) Branch  
www.MadisonAreaAAUW.org

**BOOK SALE\***

**FM KIRBY  
CHILDREN'S CENTER  
54 EAST ST. MADISON**

**OCT 19 10:00 - 4:00**  
\$10 ENTRY FOR 9:00 AM PREVIEW



**OCT 20 12 - 2:00**  
\$10 Bag Sale bag included

\*All proceeds to benefit education for women & girls

**HAPPY LABOR DAY!!**