



**We will resume our General Program
Meetings in September
Have a pleasant summer.**



**The election & induction of officers took place at the
May 12th meeting**



**Karen as Treasurer, Bonnie VP Program, and Jane as President
for the next 2 years**

Branch President Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684
VP Programs Bonnie Kosanke 970-589-1320
Secretary Susan Swift 970-361-6517

VP Membership Lori Wood 970-234-5674
Treasurer Karen Pieper Hildebrand 432-312-4747
Newsletter Shawndel Schadle 720-388-697

NOTES FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

I hope all of us will have a very enjoyable summer. But, while you all are loafing by a pool or hiking in the desert, I hope you will take a few minutes to think about what AAUW monthly programs you might like to enjoy in the coming year. Then, drop a note or phone call to Bonnie or me with your idea (or ideas). We will be having a Board Retreat sometime in July during which we will try to plan the agenda for the coming months.

You have probably received an email from AAUW's CEO, Gloria Blackwell regarding AAUW's new Strategic Plan which says, in part:

"For over 140 years, we've stood as unwavering champions for equity in education for women and girls. Today, in a moment that demands courage and clarity, our mission has never been more vital — or more urgent.

The big picture:

As higher education faces mounting challenges and unprecedented threats, we are rising to meet the moment. We're doubling down on what we do best: leading with vision, advancing women in higher education, and igniting pathways to opportunity, equity, and lasting economic empowerment.

Our 3 Strategic Priorities:

1. Empower pathways to higher education

We're investing directly in women — especially in underserved communities and underrepresented fields like STEM — through fellowships, grants, and leadership development.

2. Advocate for inclusive policy change

We're championing legislation and initiatives that remove barriers in education and the workplace — from ensuring educational environments are inclusive and free from harassment to championing pay equity, reproductive freedom, and more

3. Strengthen AAUW's grassroots and operational power

We're building a sustainable future by supporting local branches, aligning for collective impact, and fostering a robust network of members and partners nationwide."

As part of the new Strategic Plan, AAUW intends to increase membership. Our branch very much needs to expand our membership if we are to remain viable. National has provided a wonderful updated flyer with information for encouraging new members to join AAUW. This information should be useful in soliciting new members and encouraging them to join in helping AAUW advance equity for women and girls through higher education. Please click on the above link and print a few flyers to use in soliciting your friends and acquaintances of the value in joining AAUW.Jane Fitzgerald

This Month's Community Events

The Juneteenth Block Party will be Saturday, June 14, 2025 @ 2-6pm in Lincoln Park.

The day stands as a testament to and celebration of the unyielding spirit of a people. It is a day for introspection, a platform for education, and a tribute to the monumental contributions of African Americans to the history of this nation.

Grand Junction AAUW will have a booth. Set Up time is 1-2 PM, It would be appreciated for a couple of people to sit at the table for 2 hours at a time assist each other to have time to enjoy the festival. Please contact Lori or Yvette if you are able to volunteer.

It is great that we can be a part of the Juneteenth celebration. Yvette has attending for the last few years. It is great to see the diversity of people of all ages in the community who come out to celebrate unity by having fun, playing games, listening to good music, learning from each other, and eating good food.

Please contact Lori 970-234-5674

Or Yvette 443-562-5566.

June June

TAKE PART IN ART

Lincoln Park, Grand Junction, Colorado

910 N. 12th St Avenue, by the barn.

Saturday, June 21, 2025, 10 a.m. to noon

Participate in hands-on activities and arts and crafts, learn about the many Arts and Culture Organizations in the area, and find out how you can get involved. Activities include live performances, giant games, arts and crafts, prize raffles, food vendors, and more.

Special Interest Groups

Coffee & Chat Group



This fun and nonpartisan group will meet on

Saturday, June 28, 2025 starting at **9:30 am**

Location: **Spoons** - Outside Patio
3090 N 12th St, Grand Junction, CO 81506.

This month's **Discussion Topic** will be decided at the meeting.

June June

Picture This ... Walk & Talk Group

Saturday June 7th, 2025 at 8:40 AM

At the Dinosaur museum, we can carpool to the site

The group will be hiking in the in the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area (NCA),

Contact Bonnie at 970-589-1320 for more information

June June

THE SUPPER CLUB

THIS MONTH WE ARE GOING TO MOODY'S

546 MAIN ST, GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501-2683

Dine in a different local restaurant on the **4th Wednesday** of the month.
Time with good friends, laughter and wine will enhance the experience.
Spouses & friends welcome.

June 25, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Contact Shawndel 720-388-6977 by Monday June 23 for reservations.

Last Month's Meeting

Speaker - Theresa Kahl

Theresa Kahl, owner/ director of **Absolute Dance** as well as executive/ artistic director for **Colorado West Performing Arts Company**, has been a major force for both dance education for youth as well as bringing professional ballet to the performing arts scene for Western Colorado. She has been teaching on the Western Slope for over 30 years, both in private dance schools as well as various high schools, Colorado Mesa University, and through outreach programs such as REC and Eureka!.

Theresa talked about how her mission to bring more awareness to dance as a performing arts has been a committed vision of hers and the impacts she has made thus far. She talked about her latest mission of bringing professional ballet to Western Colorado with the nonprofit arts organization, Colorado West Performing Arts, continues to come with both triumphs and defeats and the impacts she has seen throughout the past three years of having a professional company here in comparison to the previous years for dance in the Grand Valley. She discussed upcoming goals and obstacles that present the company and dance scene for Western Colorado.

Note: several of us enjoyed her recent presentation of the ballet Coppelia.

Pictures from the Last Walk and Talk Group



Pictures By Bonnie Kosanke