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## Presidents' Message

By Kathy Scott – President, AAUW of Idaho

As I have been calling AAUW members across the state to discuss the legislative issues identified by AAUW Idaho Statehouse Lobby Corps for the 2016 legislative session, I have been so impressed and gratified by the support of our membership for these important issues:

- Add the Words
- Early Learning (Pre-K Education)
- Closing the Gap (Medicaid Expansion/Redesign)
- Education Funding Increases
- Sexual Assault on Campus/Human Trafficking
- STEM
- Planned Parenthood

Not only do our members support these issues, I have received an update on what is going on in their geographical areas on these issues. As I tell non-members when I am in a recruiting mode, AAUW members are informed, they vote, and they write notes, letters, emails, make phone calls, and do whatever it takes to let their legislators know what their views are.

I have not reached every state member yet, but I will continue my calls. My message to each member remains the same:

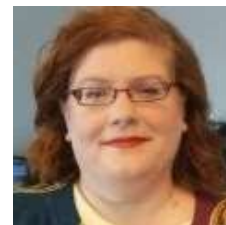
- Thank you for your membership.
- We need you to reach out to your legislators, we are a minority on these issues, but we must have a voice for them to know there are dissenting views! Please use the links provided on our website to contact your legislators and stay informed about issues  
<http://aauw-id.aauw.net/advocacy/>
- Please take advantage of the opportunity to meet Lisa Maatz, AAUW Vice President Government Relations, when she is in your area while she is in Idaho.
- My final thought – we must continue to grow our branches if we are to have any impact on these important public policy issues.

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## AAUW Public Policy Expert Lisa Maatz to Visit Idaho

AAUW Vice President, Government Relations Lisa Maatz is scheduled to inform, educate and inspire members and other citizens throughout the state during her six-day visit Feb. 11 - 17. As AAUW's top policy expert, Lisa has testified before congress, presented to conferences and appeared as a



Lisa Maatz

legislative expert on many news programs. A full itinerary has been planned for her, including public appearances and participation in the AAUW of Idaho board meeting. She will also make visits to the Long Valley, Orofino, Coeur d'Alene and Moscow branches.

Members of the Boise branch are prepared to provide housing for Pocatello or other branch members who want to visit Boise for the state board meeting, for lobby day, or for any of Lisa's public appearances, particularly her presentation February 11 at the Riverside Hotel entitled Advocacy Can Change the Course of Public Policy. A DVD of that presentation will be made available to branch leaders for showing at branch meetings.

Reservations are necessary for any of the meetings or events planned throughout Lisa's stay, including the public programs, the state board meeting, and lobby day. **Please review the schedule of events on the next page and register, either by clicking the link provided for the February 11 program, or by emailing or calling Kathy Scott for the other AAUW events. You must register by February 5 for the state board meetings and February 7 for the Lisa Maatz advocacy presentation.**

# Schedule of Events – All Members Invited

(Registration or Reservations Required by February 5 or 7 as noted)

## **Thursday February 11, 5:30 – 8 p.m. at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 East Chinden Blvd., Boise**

- 5:30 p.m. - No-host bar and networking fair featuring non-profit groups: Andrus Center for Public Policy, Close the Gap Idaho, Go Lead Idaho, Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children, Idaho Women Lawyers, Transform Idaho.
- 6:15 p.m. - Dinner at a cost of \$25 per person. Persons who do not wish to eat the dinner can attend the presentation for free, but must still register by February 7 through the Boise branch website: <http://boise-id.aauw.net/>
- 7 p.m. - Advocacy Can Change the Course of Public Policy presentation by Lisa Maatz, AAUW Vice President, Government Relations. Betsy Russell, president of the Idaho Press Club, will moderate a question and answer session following the presentation.

## **Friday February 12, 3 – 6 p.m. at The Local, 5616 W. State Street, Boise**

- 3 p.m. No host happy hour with drinks and appetizers with special guest Lisa Maatz.

## **Saturday February 13, noon – 5 p.m. day one of the AAUW of Idaho board meeting at the Idaho Education Building, 620 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Boise.**

- Lauren Necochea, Director of the Idaho Center for Fiscal Policy, will do a presentation on the tax structure of Idaho.
- Closing the Gap - A speaker from one of the many groups supporting Medicaid expansion will give us the facts we need to support this issue.
- Civility in Public Discourse – Melissa Wintrow, District 19 Representative and a Boise branch member, will present.
- Lisa Maatz, AAUW Vice President Government Relations, will discuss public policy at a national and state level and will provide training on communicating with our legislators.

## **Sunday, February 14, 9 a.m. – noon day two of the AAUW of Idaho board meeting at the Idaho Education Building, 620 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Boise**

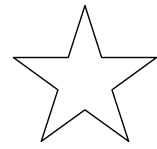
- Completion of state board business.
- RSVP to Kathy Scott (208-860-2851 or [kascott1088@msn.com](mailto:kascott1088@msn.com)) by February 5 if you want to attend the board meeting either day. All members are welcome.

## **Monday, February 15, 10 a.m. Lobby Day at the Statehouse, 700 W. Jefferson St., Boise**

- Members will meet with the legislators from their districts to discuss AAUW priority legislative issues. Make appointments now so you'll be able to get in to see them.

## **Branch visits scheduled for Lisa Maatz:**

- **Monday, February 15 an evening with the Long Valley branch in McCall.**
- **Tuesday, February 16 lunch with the Orofino and Moscow branches with a special invitation to nearby Washington state branches; dinner with the Coeur d'Alene branch.**
- **Wednesday, February 16 tentative brunch with the Spokane branch; Lisa then returns to Washington, D.C.**



## AAUW of Idaho Stars

- Sally Norton, Boise branch member and former AAUW of Idaho president, was recently accepted into a one-week advanced training by FEMA in Emmitsburg, MD. Sally is already a certified Citizen Emergency Response Team program manager in Boise and she says her AAUW training, especially “Invest in Yourself” and “The Power of One,” has helped her succeed.
- Rita Haggardt, Pocatello branch member and community volunteer extraordinaire, was recently presented with the coveted Joy Morrison Award at the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration event.
- Gail Bray, Long Valley branch president, is busy on the slopes of Brundage Mountain providing ski instruction and ski patrol duty.
- Charlotte Mallet, former AAUW of Idaho president, continues to receive visitors as she recovers from a stroke. Recovery continues to be a long journey for Charlotte and her husband Jerry. She is very pleased to see AAUW visitors and receive cards.



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Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy,  
education, philanthropy and research

<http://aauw-id.aauw.net>

