**AAUW North Tahoe**

**Instructions for Membership Form**

 **2021-2022**

Please read the following information when filling out the membership application:

1. Write your check for **Dues** to **AAUW North Tahoe** after reviewing the Dues table on the back of the Membership Form. Dues for our branch membership are **$113**, unless you are a dual member. Of that money, $62 goes to AAUW national, $20 goes to AAUW California, and $31 stays in our branch to cover our administrative and operating expenses. Please note that $56 of the $62 AAUW national dues is tax deductible.
2. In addition to your dues, you can **Donate** to one or more of our mission-based branch programs devoted to promoting educational opportunities for local young women. Please note that separate checks need to be written for each donation – information about how to write donation checks is on the back of the Membership Form. We are grateful to all our members for their generosity during the past year!
3. This year we are asking our members to sign a **Media Release** form that allows us to publish photos and videos of our member activities in our communications and social media. These photos provide human interest and make our publications more effective in attracting new members.

Please sign and return the Media Release form with your membership application. If you do not want to allow your photos to be included in our communications, please return the unsigned Media Release form with a note that you do not want to release your photos.

AAUW North Tahoe has established a donor-advised fund at Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (“TTCF”) to accept and distribute funds to charitable organizations. You will receive an acknowledgement of your gift from TTCF for your tax records. Any donations you make go directly to the programs you choose. Here is some information about the projects supported by your tax-deductible donation checks.

**Tech Trek:** This program is for girls who have completed the 7th grade.  Our branch, with community help from Tahoe City Rotary Club and Tahoe League for Charity, sends **five girls** **each year** to this weeklong, hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) camp. It costs **$900** **to send one girl** to camp, with her parents contributing $50 towards the cost.   This program has been life changing for the girls.

**STEM Trek Day:** This program is for local girls between 7th-12th grades.  Our branch started this program in 2017. Since then, we co-sponsor with South Lake, Truckee-Donner and Tahoe Nevada branches. We have received community help from Kiwanis, UC Davis TERC and Tahoe Truckee Airport District. The total costs average $2,000.   Girls from each branch attend a day of **hands-on STEM** activities. Three former North Tahoe Tech Trekkers with their families in attendance returned to a recent STEM Trek Day to showcase their STEM professions,

**Girls State:** Co-sponsored with the South Tahoe American Legion Auxiliary, a girl who has completed 11th grade attends a weeklong intensive legislative camp.  The girls get invaluable leadership experience that stands them in good stead for the rest of their lives.   They may not choose to take the political path, but the skills and knowledge they gain over the week are priceless.

**AAUW North Tahoe STEM Scholarship:** Contributions to the Scholarship fund enable our branch to award a **$5,000 scholarship** to a highly qualified, STEM-motivated young woman residing in the North Tahoe High School attendance area.  The scholarship is both merit and needs based.  Our branch has committed to award $2,000 to our scholarship winner in pursuit of STEM studies for her first year in college.  She will receive an additional $1,000 for each of three subsequent years if she maintains a B or better GPA and continues STEM studies. Overall, the AAUW North Tahoe STEM Scholarship program supports 4 young women, each with scholarships totaling $5,000.

**AAUW Fund:** [AAUW Fund](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/how-to-support-aauw-through-fundraising/) is a general fund for unrestricted gifts distributed by the national organization. If you prefer, you may contribute to a [specific fund](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/how-to-support-aauw-through-fundraising/), e.g. Education and Training Fund, Leadership Initiatives Fund or Economic Security Fund. When our Branch contributes a total of $750 to AAUW funds, we are enabled to select and recognize a Branch Member for her outstanding service in promoting the goals of our Branch.

**Undesignated Contributions:** If you would rather make an undesignated contribution, the branch's donor advised fund held at TTCF includes a subaccount for tax-deductible contributions not designated for a special program. AAUW North Tahoe's Leadership team will allocate undesignated funds to mission-based programs, as needed*.* Please write your check to TTCF with “Undesignated Contribution” on the memo line.

Given funding needs this year, please consider directing your contributions to the AAUW North Tahoe STEM Scholarship, the AAUW Fund, or the Undesignated Contributions.

Thank you for your continued support of AAUW North Tahoe!

Cheryl Allen and Johnnie Lee Don

Membership Co-Vice Presidents