

AAUW To Present Agent Of Change Award

POTSDAM - The St. Lawrence County Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is now accepting nominations for its 12th AAUW Agent of Change Award.

AAUW biennially honors a St. Lawrence County woman whose work as employer, employee or volunteer is noteworthy in one or all of these three areas: her work has advanced the cause of women's rights; her work exemplifies the importance of equity for women; her work has brought about significant change in the community.

Any individual or group

may submit a letter of nomination for someone who meets the criteria. AAUW Membership VP Lisa Wilson chairs the 2011 Agent of Change Committee.

To nominate someone, please send a letter and supporting documentation outlining the nominee's contributions that meet the criteria to 52 South Main Street, Norwood, NY, 13668, before Aug. 30. The award will be presented at the branch's fall membership meeting.

Past recipients of this award have been Previous Agents of Change have been Georgia Coopersmith (1987)

as director of the Gibson Art Gallery at SUNY Potsdam and for reaching out to make the visual arts accessible to a wider public; Sister Kathryn Healey (1989), for her work in starting Hospice in St. Lawrence County; and Betty Bradley (1991), for her pioneering work as first woman to be elected to the county legislature.

Also honored have been Carol Grzywinski (1993), for her work in establishing the Learning Assistance at SUNY Canton for re-entry and non-traditional students; Lois McAllester (1995), for her work as dietician and admin-

istrator with the Office for the Aging in establishing a network of nutrition sites throughout the county; and the late Stacy Hammill (1997), for her work as a citizen activist in the areas of voter participation and protecting the environment.

Agents of Change in the 21st Century have been Eva Turknett-Ramsay (1999), for her work as director of CAVA to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; Karen Butler Easter (2001), for her work with Reachout, a 24-hour crisis intervention, information and referral service for St. Lawrence County;

and Hilary Oak (2003), for her work for the arts in the county.

In 2005, AAUW honored Bea Woodward, for her work with several local volunteer organizations; Allison Koch in 2007, for opening the doors for women in health care by being the first midwife to start a holistic, female-centered, OB/GYN practice in St. Lawrence County; and Pat Musante, the director of the Potsdam Public Library, in 2009 for her work to expand library services in the area.

Membership in the St. Lawrence County Branch is open to anyone who supports

the mission of AAUW. AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. AAUW's commitment to educational equity is reflected in its public policy advocacy, community programs, leadership development, conventions and conferences, national partnerships, and international connections.

For more information about AAUW locally, contact President Becky Gerber at 268-9957 or gerberrl@potSDam.edu or Membership VP Lisa Wilson at 353-2513 or e-mail lwilson17@aol.com.