AAUW Members Earn Honors At Convention

POTSDAM - AAUW-St. Lawrence County Branch members and programming were recognized at the recent state convention held in Ellenville.

Attending were local AAUW members Kathleen Stein, Canton, and Donna Seymour, Potsdam, who serves the state as the vice president for public policy. Stein was recognized with a Special Leadership Recognition Award for her work as the branch public policy chair.

Each year AAUW-NYS invites branches to nominate a member for the Emerging Leader Award. This year, the St. Lawrence County Branch nominee was membership VP, JoAnn Rogers, Canton.

Rogers is an assistant professor of humanities and social sciences at Clarkson University, where she introduces her students to a broad array of social justice issues including poverty, the environment and human trafficking. She joined the St. Lawrence County Branch three years ago and was elected as education opportunities fund VP.

In 2013 she was elected the branch membership VP, bringing energy and passion to the job. She has organized events at three of four college campuses in the last year and outreached to people across a broad spectrum to join AAUW. She also participates in the video news collaboration with WCKN, North Country Matters.

JOANN ROGERS

In addition to member recognition, the branch also won state recognition for branch membership, programming, communication and philanthropy. AAUW-SLC received Special Recognition for Branch Growth & Retention in 2013-14. For programming, the branch won the highest level of recognition, a Platinum Award for Marketing the Mission.

For Public Policy, the branch received a 2014 Equal Pay Day Advocacy award, a Gold star Public Policy Action Award, recognition for efforts to Educate Members through the Newsletter, a award for Community Outreach and Education for the North Country Matters videos, and an Award for Best Use of OpEds to Educate the Community.

The branch won panoply of communication recognition, including a Visibility Award of Distinction (in all categories); a Social Media Award of Distinction; a 21st Century Communications Award of Distinction for Newsletters/Print Media; a special award for Short Films Award of Distinction; and an AAUW Web Award of Distinction for Communications/Visibility.

At the 2014 convention, AAUW-St. Lawrence County was recognized for our philanthropy and giving – a giving total of $2,370 in 2013. The giving awards included being at Top Ten Branch for Total Unrestricted AAUW Funds contributions; a Top Ten Leadership Program Fund contributions; and a Top Ten for Total Public Policy Fund contributions.

Also received were Legal Advocacy Fund recognition as a LAF Star Branch for $5 or more per capita contributions ($12.34 per capita for sixth place); a Top 10 LAF Branch contributor; and a Top 5 Evvie Currie Giving Circle contributor – getting third place for a total of $536 in contributions.

The branch awards will be on display at the branch annul meeting on May 22 at TAUNY in canton. The evening event will include a women's networking tabling event and remarks by Assemblywoman Addie Russell, who will give a legislative update.