

## **American Association of University Women Hosts Picnic Celebrating 100 Years of Women Winning Right to Vote In New York State, July 23-Perkin's Mansion**

The **American Association of University Women (AAUW)** will host a **NYS Suffrage Centennial Picnic celebration** on **Sunday, July 23, 2017**, from **noon until 4 pm**, at its local headquarters, the Perkins Mansion, which is located at **494 East Avenue** in Rochester, New York.

AAUW President Gaynelle Wethers and Charitable Trust President Marilyn Tedeschi invite the greater community to celebrate Women's Suffrage and contribute to Rochester's living history. WHAM 13/FOX Rochester reporter Carlet Cleare will serve as the picnic's Mistress of Ceremony.

AAUW NYS Suffrage **Centennial Picnic tickets are \$5-10 and can be purchased online at <http://www.perkinsmansion.brownpapertickets.com>**. The festive lunch includes - **Southern Fried Chicken and assorted salads, cakes and pies**. This family friendly event is **open to the community**.

Picnic attendees will hear Suffrage stories and engrossing tales about the social justice struggles of Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, Matilda Joslyn Gage, Harriet Tubman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Inez Milholland, and Ida B. Wells. From their examples, guests will gain insight and inspiration on how they too can contribute to our ongoing quest to make voting accessible to every American.

Guests will hear about Maria Lopez, a young Puerto Rican woman, who was denied the right to vote in Rochester in 1967 because she did not speak English. They will learn how she won her case in court and was part of a civil rights movement that greatly impacted Americans of Puerto Rican descent living in the United States.

Picnic attendees can step up on the AAUW Soap Box and "Have THEIR Say on Voting." Connect with local youth. They can visit Suffrage displays, including the makings of the Rochester Women's History Dress as well as other exhibits focused on the local AAUW branch and Perkins Mansion histories.

In a fitting commemoration, guests can ring the Rochester Remembrance Bell to honor or remember a loved one who inspired or helped them to grow and can cast votes in a special ballot box for the future.

For more information, call Gaynelle Wethers@ 585-261-1955 cell or email [gwether9@gmail.com](mailto:gwether9@gmail.com)

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