



## March 2021

Remember when **March** Madness referred to basketball and not our current mental state after a year of lockdown?

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the **March** issue of the *California Connection*, the monthly e-blast sent to every member from your state organization for a quick read of things to know and do in AAUW!

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### Things to know (in which we talk of **March**)

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We're pretty sure you already know this, but **March** is [Women's History Month](#) (apparently, women have no history for the other eleven months). Still, this is a moment to reflect on the accomplishments of women through the **march** of time. The theme for 2021--*Valiant Women of the Vote Refusing to be Silent* -- is the same as it was for 2020, due to the pandemic's curtailment of the centennial celebration. This also seems to show that, among other powers, women can stop time.

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Beware the Ides of **March**. Thanks to



Shakespeare, that sounds ominous (as does “Double, Double, Toil and Trouble,” but that’s a conversation for another time). The Ides of **March** simply means **March** 15th and that is only nine days before **March** 24th, which is Equal Pay Day and the true subject of this paragraph. Nice segue, huh? This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year in the U.S. Point being....AAUW still has work to do. Are you, your branch, and your community educated on the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#)?

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The Public Policy Committee wants you to know--wait for it, wait for it --- that the new Bill Tracking tool will soon be on our website. No joke. After reviewing 60 mission-related bills, the Public Policy Committee will select 30 or so for all of us to keep an eagle eye on. You can follow their progress as they **march** through the legislative process with our Bill Tracking tool. Click [HERE](#) to see it.

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## Things to do (in which we also talk of **March**)

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Our AAUW California webinars were not nominated for a Golden Globe, a grave oversight in our opinion. But they are still hugely popular with our members as a way to stay connected with AAUW and certainly better than watching tall people throw balls in the air.



- **3/16/21 7:00 pm Living Our Vision of Equity for All: *Should We Eliminate the Degree Requirement?*** This is a MUST to learn about AAUW National’s proposed

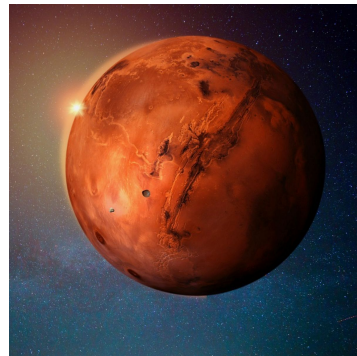
bylaws amendment to eliminate the education requirement. AAUW California's Board of Directors has given it a thumbs up. Learn why.

- **3/22/21 7:00 pm How to Talk to Legislators:** Cat got your tongue? Learn how to advocate for legislation that you care about. This webinar is required for those who signed up to [march](#) virtually into their legislators' offices (well, their legislators' kitchens, bedrooms or fake backgrounds) on Lobby Day March 24th, but it's open to the rest of us too.

[View Webinar Schedule](#)

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“[March](#)” is named for the Roman god of war, Mars. This was the time of year to resume military campaigns that had been interrupted by winter. We like to get our way too, but swords and shields are heavy. We prefer to use a softer approach—public policy advocacy. After surveying you, our members, the Public Policy Committee has identified critical priorities to guide our advocacy efforts for the next two years. Please look at them [HERE](#). You will be asked to vote on them in April.



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Is your pink kitty cat hat for the Women's [March](#) mouldering in storage this year? You can still advocate for women's empowerment and gender equity by renewing your AAUW membership. Renewals start [March](#) 16th, so watch for an email notice. We won't give you a pink hat as a “thank you.” Or a toaster oven. Or even a membership



card. Instead, we'll use your dues to further the mission that you obviously care about.

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## See you next month.

In the meantime, we offer this:

*"March is the month of expectation, the things we do not know."*

Emily Dickinson

**Let's have good expectations.**



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.  
[AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org)

AAUW California's mission: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education and resources.  
[www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)



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