



# CALIFORNIA *Perspective*

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## 2019 California Named Gift Honoree

# DONNA LILLY

Dianne Owens, Chair  
AAUW Fund Committee  
[aauwfund@aauw-ca.org](mailto:aauwfund@aauw-ca.org)



Donna Lilly

Every year, members and branches nominate for recognition an AAUW California member who has made significant contributions to the mission of AAUW and AAUW Fund. The AAUW Fund Committee reviews the nominations and makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Donna Lilly, nominated by the Del Mar-Leucadia Branch, was selected as the 2019 State Named Gift Honoree. Donna is a dual member of the Del Mar-Leucadia and San Diego branches. She is a past AAUW California President and is now the Membership Committee's College/University Liaison, chairing the College/University Partners Subcommittee. She helped to establish the California Online Branch and is a promoter and facilitator of the Start Smart and Work Smart programs. Donna is the first woman to sit on the San Diego Air & Space Museum Board of Directors and is a Director of YMCA San Diego and the San Diego United Nations Association.

Congratulations to Donna for her service to AAUW over the years at the branch, state, and national levels.

**ADVANCING EQUITY FOR  
WOMEN AND GIRLS  
THROUGH ADVOCACY,  
EDUCATION AND  
RESEARCH**

### Articles of Incorporation Amended

The motion to amend our Articles of Incorporation passed at the 2020 Annual Meeting of AAUW California. The motion corrects a clerical error that occurred when the Articles were refiled in November 2019 and brings the Articles into alignment with the tax designation of the Corporation with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a 501(c)(4) entity.

## California Perspective

AAUW California

### Co-Presidents

Cathy Foxhoven  
Jane Niemeier

### Chief Financial Officer

Roli Wendorf

### Secretary

Lynne Batchelor

### Directors

Deanna Arthur  
Judy Cavin Brown  
Sandi Gabe  
Kathleen Harper  
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Elaine Johnson  
Dianne Owens  
Sharyn Siebert

### Communications Chair

Sandi Gabe

### California Perspective Editor

Jim Doty

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To submit an article, please email the article, author's name, branch, email address, mailing address and phone number to [perspective@aauw-ca.org](mailto:perspective@aauw-ca.org).

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Washington, DC 20005  
or call 1-800-326-2289  
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To stop receiving a mailed paper copy of this newsletter, send an email to [savepostage@aauw-ca.org](mailto:savepostage@aauw-ca.org) with the word YES in the subject line.

# THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

Jane Niemeier & Cathy Foxhoven

Co-Presidents

[statepresident@aauw-ca.org](mailto:statepresident@aauw-ca.org)



Co-Presidents

Jane Niemeier and Cathy Foxhoven

The past two years have had some peaks and some valleys. The peaks include our in-person Annual Meeting in San Diego in 2019, with great workshops, a speech by AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown, and the Speech Trek competition. We also had an outstanding virtual Annual Meeting this past April, featuring celebrations of outstanding mission-based programs and significant branch anniversaries, the announcement of the AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree, and a speech by AAUW National CEO, Kim Churches.

The valleys were having to cancel our 2020 convention and the Tech Trek camps. It has been a year like no other for AAUW California.

What has helped us get through all of this is our outstanding state board of directors, our off-board chairs and our Tech Trek State Co-Coordinators, Susan Negrete and Alice Hill. We both want to thank all of these wonderful state leaders who have stepped up to make things go as smoothly as possible. We would not have been able to have our virtual Annual Meeting without the help of the Communications Committee led by Director Sandi Gabe.

We started our term by welcoming branch leaders in several languages, and now, we would like to end by thanking you in several languages.

Merci beaucoup! Gracias! Danke schön!  
Milesker (Basque)!

We will still be around volunteering in other capacities to help advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. See you around California!

#### Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

#### Vision

Equity for all.

#### Values

Nonpartisan.  
Fact-based.  
Integrity.  
Inclusion and Intersectionality.



## HOW TO KEEP YOUR BRANCH INVOLVED IN THE 2020 ELECTION IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

Kathi Harper, Co-Chair  
Public Policy Committee  
[publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org)

Several branches have contacted the AAUW California Public Policy team asking for ideas on how to work on public policy projects, particularly GOTV (Get Out the Vote), in this time of social distancing. Kate Nielsen, Public Policy Director for AAUW National, is emphasizing the need to focus on getting out the vote and working to ensure fair elections. Toward that end, the AAUW National website contains a treasure trove of useful information, collectively entitled “Tools for Informed Voters,” which includes:

- Candidate Voter Guide Templates
- Congressional Voting Record
- Voter Issue Guide
- AAUW Quick Facts
- How to Get Out the Vote Using Social Media
- Election Protection

There is also a comprehensive guide on “How to Get Involved,” sub-titled “Three ways to help motivate civic engagement, even in a time of lockdowns and social distancing,” including explanations of the three issues – Voter Access, Getting Out the Vote, and Voter Education – followed by detailed tips on “How You Can Help.”

To access all this and more, go to [How to Get Involved in the 2020 Elections](#).

## TITLE IX ROLLBACKS: HAS THE #METOO BACKLASH BEGUN?<sup>1</sup>

Kimberly Churches, CEO

AAUW

[executive@aauw.org](mailto:executive@aauw.org)

The #MeToo Movement was supposed to be a watershed moment. No longer would we sweep accusations of sexual assault under the rug. No longer would we blame assault survivors for how short their skirt may be. Or if they had been drinking. Or if they might have flirted.

We would stop making excuses for an assailant for being generally a good guy whose future could be ruined. And we’d worry less about how assault statistics could blemish a school’s reputation and more about how sexual trauma could affect a woman’s life.

But here we go again: The U.S. Department of Education has rolled back Title IX protections against campus sexual harassment and assault.

The new rules turn back the clock, reversing policies that were put in place to make it easier for survivors of sexual misconduct to come forward. These rules stack the deck against survivors, making it too onerous, even traumatic, for many to come forward.

Even with protections in place, it’s never been easy for sexual assault survivors to speak out: 89 percent of colleges reported zero rapes and 79 percent of middle and high schools reported zero cases of sexual harassment, according to a study by AAUW. Yet the Bureau of Justice Statistics finds that one in five women experience sexual assault or violence while in college. Obviously, these numbers don’t align. Forces of institutional self-protection, along with the hurdles and burdens preventing survivors from pursuing justice, already get in the way.

For a time, it seemed that Title IX could offer welcome recourse for survivors. Created nearly a half century ago to ensure all students had access to an education free of gender discrimination, Title IX governs not only ath-

<sup>1</sup> Originally published on February 27, 2020, the text has been updated to reflect that the final rule, then a proposal, has now been adopted.

letics (with which it's often associated) but actually all things gender equity on campus. Guidelines to Title IX, adopted in 2011, made it clear that colleges needed to utilize the law to battle campus sexual misconduct —or risk losing federal funding.

### A Troubling Return To The Past

Now, those guidelines have been overturned and replaced with rules that sound archaic. There is no other way to interpret them other than they are intended to deter survivors from reporting issues, including:

- Allowing universities to hold trial-style hearings where the survivor of sexual harassment or assault could be subjected to live cross-examinations by representatives of the accused.
- Changing the definition of sexual assault and violence on campus from “unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature” to conduct that is “severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it denies a person access to the school’s program or activity.”
- Letting universities choose the standard of proof to use – either “preponderance of the evidence” or a higher bar of “clear and convincing evidence.”

When these rules were proposed last spring, they drew much criticism from educators, gender advocates, survivors and others. In fact, more than 125,000 people and groups weighed in during the public comment period, most of them opposing the rollback. Still, the Administration is moving forward; so the question now is how can we ensure that survivors retain the protections they need?

### What We Need To Do

Our goals should be clear: First to prevent sexual harassment and assault, and when it does occur, to have fair and just systems in place – for both the accused and survivors. Prevention starts with changing campus culture. This means modernizing all policies and practices on campuses that perpetuate bias and diminish anyone based on gender. We need to foster more equitable and respectful environments in all regards; by leveling playing fields we'll shift power differentials and discourage tolerance for unacceptable behavior.

We must all be upstanders, not bystanders, speaking up when individuals are behaving inappropriately, when people are being unduly pressured or when someone needs support and encouragement for reporting harassment or assault.

Campus administrators can – and should — choose to continue following more modern and acceptable practices that treat survivors appropriately, with understanding and respect. Many colleges and universities said they plan to maintain current practices, such as keeping the unwelcome conduct standard, not only because it is the right thing to do, but also because it will reduce their potential legal risks. And we must double down on our efforts to reverse the rule change and to advocate for new legal protections that represent best fair policies and practices.

The momentum unleashed by the #MeToo movement cannot be contained. We have learned the lessons: We will not pause. We will not be silenced. We will not tolerate pushback against the progress we have made. We may have lost this battle, but we are winning the war and will continue fighting until we achieve gender equity, the full promise of Title IX.

## AAUW CALIFORNIA ELECTION

Janice Lee, Chair

Nominations & Elections Committee

[nominations@aauw-ca.org](mailto:nominations@aauw-ca.org)

The AAUW California board had seven director and one secretary positions to fill for the 2020-2022 term. After the nominating period, we had enough candidates to fill each board position. Since there were no contested elected positions, we were not required to have an election.

Congratulations to the following candidates that were duly elected by acclamation at the end of our virtual annual AAUW California meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>: Lynne Batchelor, Michelle Miller-Galaz, Crystal Stebbins, Kathi Harper, Sharyn Siebert, Elaine A. Johnson, Tracey Clark and Jim Doty.

President-Elect Dianne Owens (Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch) will become President of AAUW California for 2020-2022.

Thank you all for volunteering your time and leadership.

Additionally, Nominations and Elections Committee thanks all members who helped in identifying members who have the talent and skills to continue AAUW California's mission in the future as a board member.



## OUR 2020-21 CALIFORNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2020-21 AAUW California Board of Directors will meet for a “Virtual June 19-21 Retreat” to begin planning for the next two years. COVID-19 has changed so many things for all of us in the past few months and AAUW California is no exception. The Board will determine at the Retreat how we align AAUW California with AAUW National’s priorities. We will determine how best to respond to the California branches as they work to support their members. A critical look at our current committee structure will be undertaken to determine how best to use our resources and talents to further our priorities. After our July Board meeting, we will begin solicitation for specific committees with a deadline of August 15<sup>th</sup>. Details for applications will be available on the website after July 23<sup>rd</sup>.



**Dianne Owens**

President 2020-22  
[statepresident@aauw-ca.org](mailto:statepresident@aauw-ca.org)  
 Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch



**Roli Wendorf**

Chief Financial Officer 2019-21  
[cfo@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cfo@aauw-ca.org)  
 San Francisco Branch



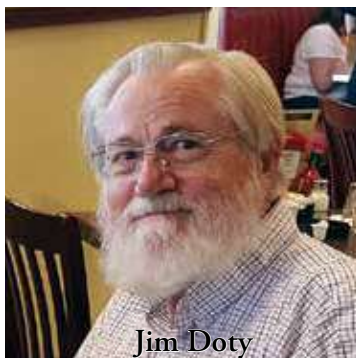
**Lynne Batchelor**

Secretary 2020-2022  
[secretary@aauw-ca.org](mailto:secretary@aauw-ca.org)  
 San Diego Branch



**Judy Cavin Brown**

Director 2019-21  
 Santa Cruz County Branch



**Jim Doty**

Director 2020-22

Alhambra/San Gabriel Branch



**Tracy Clark**

Director 2020-22

California Online Branch



**Kathi Harper**

Director 2020-2022

Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista  
 Branch



**Carol Holzgrafe**

Director 2019-21

Chico, Paradise & Morgan Hill  
 Branches



**Elaine Johnson**

Director 2020-22

North Peninsula Branch



**Michelle Miller-Galaz**

Director 2020-22

Bakersfield Branch



**Sharyn Siebert**

Director 2020-22

Monterey Peninsula Branch



**Crystal Stebbins**

Director 2020-22

Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista  
 Branch

# A NEW NORMAL ON CAMPUS

Donna Lilly, Chair

College and University Partners Committee

[cu@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cu@aauw-ca.org)

UC San Diego Chancellor Pradeep Khosla started the campus experimental “Return to Learn” program on May 11<sup>th</sup>, giving self-administered COVID-19 tests to 5000 students currently living in campus housing as a major step toward resuming on-campus courses this fall. If the program works, campus officials plan to test 65,000 students, faculty and staff on a monthly basis. UC San Diego will become the first campus in the UC system, and one of the first in the U.S., to broadly test students for the novel coronavirus. “Our campus is well-suited to do this because UC San Diego Health includes two major hospitals and many clinics, all of which are tied to one of the largest medical research programs in the U.S.,” Khosla said in a statement on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

CSU System Chancellor Timothy White described in a news interview on May 14<sup>th</sup> how 72,000 classes were transformed from in-person to online across all 23 CSU campuses in April 2020. He has announced that nearly all fall semester courses will be online as well. CSU faculty will attend newly created institutes this summer to learn to engage in virtual space, but this transition will increase the costs of a student’s education. White is listening to expert epidemiologists who are advising CSU administrators how and when to open campuses. Dr. White was recruited by the AAUW Riverside Branch in early 2000 when he served as president of UC Riverside and continues to maintain his AAUW membership.

## What is the new normal for connecting with students on campus?

Work Smart workshops are your opportunity to tell, text, email, write, or post on your branch website an invitation to the public to learn the skills of negotiating a salary and benefits. All in-person Work Smart workshops have been canceled due to COVID-19. However, everyone should take advantage of the online workshop to become a savvy negotiator to get a job, get a raise or get a new position. Virtual job interviews are the norm today. San Francisco Branch and the San Francisco Friends of the Commission on the Status of Women have accomplished their goal to train 20,000 women to negotiate their salary and benefits through Work Smart

workshops since December 2017. Go to [salary.aauw.org](http://salary.aauw.org) to learn more.

Start Smart in-person workshops have also been canceled. The AAUW National website will update campuses and facilitators at a later date.

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) has been postponed. Registration fees for students to attend NCCWSL should be refunded by AAUW.

The Give a Grad a Gift (GGG) program will sunset on June 30, 2020. You have time to honor a student who graduates this year or in the past two years who has earned an associate, bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral degree and is not an AAUW member. All e-student affiliates will automatically receive GGG upon graduation this year.

College & University Partner Membership renewal by June 30<sup>th</sup> is vital to retain the 89 current partners in California. There are many benefits to starting or renewing a partnership. Two faculty members serving as campus C/U representatives receive free AAUW membership for one year and have access to timely research and data on the website. Faculty, administrators and doctoral students are a great source as virtual speakers for your branch book club or Title IX or student debt discussions. Representing AAUW on a campus looks very good on a professor’s resume. Current partners should go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), click on Membership, click on C/U partners, then click on renew.

Two Minute Activist is another incentive for C/U campuses to renew their partner membership for \$175. AAUW provides the megaphone (Two Minute Activist tool) and students and faculty provide the voice (call or message) to influence members of Congress and state legislators about Title IX, pay equity, and issues affecting women and girls. Go to [aauw.org/two-minute-activist/](http://aauw.org/two-minute-activist/) to learn more.

Test Your Implicit Bias provides an opportunity for you to explore your thoughts and actions on what you see,





San Diego Branch scholarship recipients (Left to right): Vanessa Revae Bram, SDSU; Aryal Jardines, National University; Jade Connolly Cepurac, SDSU; Raya Kavosh, UCSD; and Dina Leon Khachik, Point Loma Nazarene University

read, speak, hear, and feel, along with how you react to diverse situations. AAUW joined forces with Harvard University to bring you this interactive quiz for you to identify your unconscious biases. Discover your opinions of diversity and how inclusive you are. Post this link on your branch website and reference the link in your branch news. Go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/iat/>.

E-student affiliates deserve a Certificate of Achievement from your branch to recognize their AAUW student club leadership in promoting a solution to issues affecting women on campuses. Certificates are important to the student leaders for their resume history. Purchase blank certificates or create your own and mail to AAUW student club officers. AAUW California C/U committee will reimburse your branch for postage and expenses. Contact [cu@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cu@aauw-ca.org).

Local scholarships awarded to C/U students have a new twist this year due to the no-gathering rules. Lee Winocur Field, state C/U committee, announced in mid-May

that her branch virtually awarded a scholarship to the Irvine Valley College AAUW Student Organization president. The recipient has been an e-student affiliate and will attend UC Irvine in the fall. Lee's branch, San Clemente-Capistrano Bay, intends to award scholarships to only e-student affiliates from Irvine Valley College in an effort to encourage students to join AAUW. Branches all over the state are choosing to interview and select scholar recipients virtually with positive thoughts that a celebration event will be held in the future.

Can a branch award scholarships to students at a variety of campuses? The answer is absolutely. The San Diego Branch considered age, language spoken, nationality, and focus of academic studies in awarding scholarships to one student at Point Loma Nazarene University, one student at National University, two at UC San Diego, and two at San Diego State University. Virtual scholarship awards and celebrations are currently the norm. Celebration camaraderie will return again for branch members and scholars in 2020!

## MAINTAIN YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Deanna Arthur, Chair  
Membership Committee  
[membership@aauw-ca.org](mailto:membership@aauw-ca.org)

Usually I am scratching my head trying to think of something interesting and important enough to share with all of our members, but not this time.

Branch membership chairs and branch treasurers are sending out membership renewal notices for the upcoming year. Please renew at your earliest convenience. We hope your branch is participating in AAUW's Membership Payment Program (MPP); a secure, online dues-processing alternative. You can renew online on the National AAUW website and pay online with a credit card or pay by check. When you pay online, branch and state dues are automatically deposited into the respective branch and state bank accounts. When you pay by check, the branch treasurer will process your renewal. It's secure and it's free.

The Give a Grad a Gift (GGG) program will be discontinued by AAUW National on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Little time remains to take advantage of this exemplary program. If you know anyone graduating now, please give that graduate the gift of AAUW membership. There is no cost involved unless the recipient is also made a branch member and owes branch dues (some branches subsidize for grads). The form is no longer available on the AAUW National website, but I would be happy to send it to anyone who could use it – email [membership@aauw-ca.org](mailto:membership@aauw-ca.org).

There have been many queries about acknowledging 50-year life members as we gear up for 2020-21. Please be patient. There is a new AAUW National website and it is far from complete. Because the national staff has been working from home since March, some of their tasks have been delayed, including acknowledging the 50-year members. Be assured that your branches will receive this information as soon as possible. If you have a specific concern, please contact [membership@aauw-ca.org](mailto:membership@aauw-ca.org).

As a member, one way to help make your branch attractive to new and old members is to help your branch leaders keep your website fresh and up-to-date. Perhaps you can suggest articles or send photos-

--something else to keep you busy as you "shelter in place."

As we close this year and gear up for 2021, I would like to thank all the members who have contacted me and offered me the opportunity to assist them with their AAUW membership needs. It has been my privilege to serve on the state board. I often say that "we are the world's best-kept secret."

In closing, if you can do only one thing, be kind. Everyone needs support and friendship, especially these days as we face a "new normal." Where else to find support and friendship, but from our AAUW sisters and brothers?

## ZOOMING INTO ACTION!

Sandi Gabe, Director  
Communications

[communications@aauw-ca.org](mailto:communications@aauw-ca.org)

The Greek philosopher, Plato, said, "Necessity is the mother of invention." That proverb rings true in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. We're faced with trying to stay engaged and relevant while our options for getting together with friends, family, co-workers, and fellow AAUW members have been limited. How did we reinvent our approach to staying connected? We went virtual.

The AAUW webteam zoomed into action to help the AAUW California state organization and AAUW branches continue to function despite restrictions on travel and in-person meetings. The webteam offered training in Zoom, a videoconferencing application, and 69% of California branches attended. More than 300 members, representing 75% of California branches, demonstrated the power of Zoom by participating in our first virtual Annual Meeting.

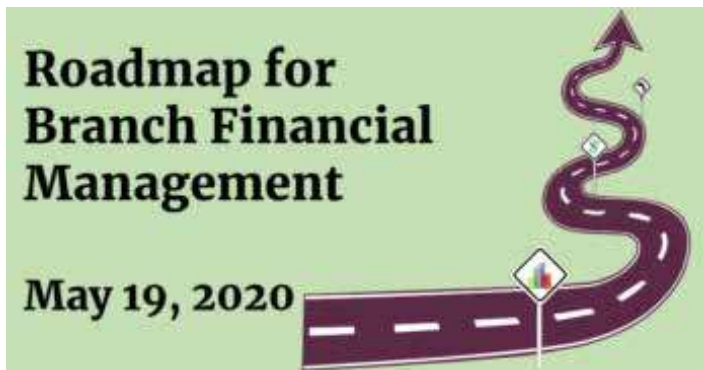
While we couldn't imagine members adopting an online approach four months ago, today it's become the norm to stay safe at home and meet online. If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you can view the meeting and winning Speech Trek video and download presentation materials [HERE](#). Watch for more virtual opportunities this fall.



How can you help your branch stay connected? Volunteer to learn how to teleconference and become your branch expert. In an effort to support this “new normal,” the webteam will offer Zoom training to branch members via two webinars in July. Registration is required.

- July 10th, 4-6 pm. Register [HERE](#).
- July 20th, 2-4 pm. Register [HERE](#).

The Communications Committee’s swift response to the pandemic shows how resilient, creative and adventurous AAUW members can be in a brave new world.



# FINANCE WORKSHOP AVAILABLE

Roli Wendorf, Chief Financial Officer  
Finance  
[cfo@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cfo@aauw-ca.org)

Every branch **must** have a finance officer. Finance is a fiduciary responsibility of each branch's entire board. Failure to properly carry out the branch's fiduciary responsibilities can lead to loss of non-profit status and even branch closure.

A record 147 members attended “A Roadmap for Branch Financial Management: All Your Questions Answered.” The finance workshop, which was originally planned for the 2020 state convention, was presented as a webinar on May 19<sup>th</sup>. If you were unable to attend, check out the [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org) website for a recording of the webinar and workshop materials available for download.

The workshop covers a broad range of finance-related topics useful for branch finance officers and other current or potential leaders such as:

1. Keeping track of income and expenses, what tool to use, budgets, and reviews

2. Taxes and insurance
3. Membership types, dues collection with the Membership Payment Program (MPP), payment of dues to state and national, dual membership payments
4. Special Projects Fund and fundraising for Tech Trek, branch projects and scholarships

The workshop featured a panel of experts:

1. Roli Wendorf, AAUW California CFO
2. Christine Ritter, President Elect and Past Finance Officer for Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch
3. Patricia Ferrer, Incoming Finance Officer for Long Beach Branch, Past AAUW California CFO
4. Barbara Spencer, President and Past Treasurer of San Francisco Branch
5. Deanna Arthur, AAUW California Board Director for Membership
6. Sue Cochran, President of AAUW California Special Projects Fund, Past President of AAUW California

From the recording and workshop materials, you will learn how other branches handle a variety of finance issues, and take back ideas for your own branch.

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/branch-treasurer-resources/>



| Branch                      | Year Founded | Anniversary |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Amador                      | 1969         | 50          |
| Chico                       | 1920         | 100         |
| Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek | 1969         | 50          |
| Long Beach                  | 1920         | 100         |
| Los Alamos- Mountain View   | 1920         | 100         |
| Sacramento                  | 1920         | 100         |
| San Jose                    | 1909         | 110         |
| Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley | 1915         | 105         |
| Westminster-Fountain Valley | 1970         | 50          |



## ELEVEN BRANCHES RECOGNIZED FOR MISSION-BASED PROGRAMS

Judy Cavin Brown, Co-Chair  
Program Committee  
[program@aauw-ca.org](mailto:program@aauw-ca.org)

The Program Committee is pleased to recognize branches for outstanding mission-based programs presented during 2019-2020. Programs were chosen on the criteria of being mission-based and effective. Program topics included human trafficking, mentoring, pay equity, STEM/STEAM, suffrage, Title IX and women's history. Please take note that three branches are being recognized for two programs. Those are Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista, Long Beach and Santa Cruz County.

The **Stockton Branch** is recognized for their ongoing mentoring program for girls from grade 8 (having come out of their Tech Trek program) through high school graduation. This program has been ongoing for 12+ years. To date, 100% of those participating in the program have gone on to be the first in their family to attend college.

### Three branches are recognized for program work on the topic of human trafficking.

The **Long Beach Branch** presented a panel of guest speakers who related the experiences of abused and trapped women living in fear and shared their efforts to help those caught up in this silent web. Ways to identify and assist these victims were explored.

The **Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Branch** presented a panel of four experts who contributed their different perspective on human trafficking. The panelists spoke of local cases and gave suggestions for protecting high school students from compromising situations.

promising situations.

The **Santa Cruz County Branch** has been working on a project for the past three years to educate the public about human trafficking in the local area. Working with local schools, law enforcement, the health department, the League of Women Voters, and the Soroptimists, the branch produced this year's End Human Trafficking forum. The keynote speaker was a local leading advocate for victims of human trafficking, who is herself a survivor.

The **San Diego Branch** presented a virtual community round table discussion, "Artificial Intelligence (AI) Education: An Economic Imperative," to address the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, educators, and public college/university leaders, with particular focus on how to best serve marginalized communities. The panel featured five civic and education thought leaders who are leading innovation in education with artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) in San Diego and across the state of California.

### Three branches are recognized for programs in the area of STEM/STEAM.

The **Humboldt Branch** sponsored a presentation from Linda Wise, general manager of Recology Humboldt

County. Ms. Wise spoke about a world without waste. She stated that the vision at Recology is to create a world without waste by discovering sustainable recovery resource practices that can be implemented globally. This was an excellent example of the impact women working in the STEM fields can have on our world.

The **Long Beach Branch** welcomed back three former Trek Tech participants who shared the life-changing impact of this program. The speakers were Rachel Thompson, a Ph.D. candidate in Physical Therapy at CSULB who attended Tech Trek 10 years ago, Gech Huong Huy, a high school senior at California Academy of Math & Science (CAMS), Long Beach Unified School District, who attended four years ago and is heading to the University of San Francisco with a major in Environmental Engineering, and Karintha Marshall who attended the very first Tech Trek Camp 20 years ago and now heads the IT department at a non-profit organization. These ladies have excelled in their fields and have received multiple recognitions for their scholarship and efforts to make a difference in their communities. It was exciting to see the long-term success of such sponsorships.

The **San Mateo Branch** sponsored an inspiring presentation on how merging art and sciences can form fully-rounded careers. Sonia Koesterer gave a well thought-out and informative lecture, *A Woman's Journey in Technology and Design*, explaining how she combined STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) with Art for a career in STEAM. Sonia used these tools to forge her career in computer science/human interaction to produce a beautiful and functional product for a health delivery start-up. Her "journey" encompassed progressive organizations such as Johnson Controls, Smart Design and Myia Health, where she is currently the VP of Design. She is a designer, strategist, researcher, and untangler of complex problems.

**In celebration of the centennial of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, four branches are recognized for programs related to the suffrage movement.**

The **Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista Branch** celebrated by having a high tea, as teas were the means by which suffragists raised money for the movement. While the audience enjoyed delicious food prepared by branch members, a panel of suffragists from the Seneca Falls Convention attired in period costumes narrated the story of the movement leading up to the passage of the

19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Many of the 100 attendees got into the spirit of the celebration and also dressed in period attire. The San Diego Women's Museum and the League of Women Voters worked with the branch to celebrate the centennial in this creative manner.

The **Monterey Peninsula Branch** celebrated with a presentation showing the local history of the movement. From 1896-1911, California women worked hard and won the right to vote in 1911, nine years before the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920. Dennis Mar, the presenter, shared the story of what went on to gain this right in Monterey County. He researched newspapers and genealogy reports to track down family members of the original women proponents of women's suffrage in Monterey County. This personalized the slide presentation, linking present-day families to their "agitating and annoying" ancestors.

At the annual luncheon of the Monterey Bay IBC, the **Santa Cruz County Branch** presented the program featuring the speaker--Angelica Shirley Carpenter, who talked about the suffrage movement and highlighted Matilda Joslyn Gage, one of the lesser known suffragists who worked closely with Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others. Gage was also the mother-in-law of L. Frank Baum, best known as the author of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, who had a strong relationship and respect for her. It was intriguing to consider the influence her views seem to have had on Baum's writings.

The **Ventura County IBC** celebrated the birthday of suffragist Alice Paul by featuring a presentation by award-winning businesswoman Dawn Dyer and her Suffrage Passion Players. Held on January 11<sup>th</sup> at Los Robles Greens Country Club in Moorpark, 75 attendees enjoyed a one-act suffrage play followed by Dawn's inspiring recounting of the fight for women's right to vote. She also reviewed key indicators of women's equality today, and discussed actions being taken to achieve economic, political, and social equity for women.

The **Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista Branch** presented a program focused on women in athletics with a presentation by Lisa Faulkner, the basketball coach from Point Loma Nazarene University. The program detailed her many obstacles in the journey to become a coach in a profession which is male-dominated. She has made outstanding progress at Vanguard, including guiding the Lions to a 62-3 record with two Final Four appearances.



The **Tehachapi Mountain Branch** celebrated women in history with a presentation by a group of its members who retell and act out stories of famous women in schools and for community groups. These reenactments are told in the first person with the reenactors dressed in period costumes. Each year features different women with this year's performances showcasing Maud Younger (suffragist), Gertrude Jekyll (gardener), Margaret Burbidge (astronomer), Captain Edwina Todd (nurse), and Mary Pickford (actress). This year the group performed at three elementary schools, two middle schools, and at gatherings of the Masons, the Democratic Club, the Women's Club, and Lions Club, reaching several hundred people in all.

It is our sincere hope that you will find inspiration in the recognition received by these branches to go forward into the 2020-2021 year with strong mission-based programs of your own.

## CALIFORNIA'S STAR BRANCHES

AAUW National's Five-Star National Recognition Program rewards affiliates (states, branches and other organizations) for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization's mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. Affiliates must apply to receive recognition. A star is awarded for achievement in each of the following categories for a total of up to five stars.



Programs:

- Host 3-5 strategic plan- related programs (e.g., Forum on economic security, Work Smart Online Training Day, Operation Equity: Reading for Results participation, panel on women and leadership) in FY20.
- Representative(s) from the branch complete the community resource mapping exercise.

Advancement:

- \$30 per capita (member) gift raised for greatest needs.

- Shift focus in branch giving from fellowships and grants/LAF to greatest needs or strategic plan focus areas by 50%.
- Retain 90% or more of your branch membership and submit annual dues by September 30.
- Increase the Legacy Circle Members in your state by 10%.

Communications & External Relations:

- All existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and Work Smart Online. (Note: Monthly posts are required for social media; Work Smart Online must be included on the website home page.)

Public Policy & Research:

- Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. Representative(s) and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus (a meeting with their staff also fulfills this objective).
- An alternative elected official is acceptable if circumstances warrant.
- Ensure a branch public policy chair is appointed who collaborates with the state public policy chair.
- Host at least one public event where Action Network sign-ups are collected.

Governance & Sustainability:

- Align planning with state and AAUW national strategic plans.
- Branch board institutes a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives are included in the future leadership.

### Congratulations to the following branches:

#### Marin

All five stars!

#### Mid-Peninsula

Communications & External Relations, Program,  
Public Policy & Research

#### Beach Cities

Communications & External Relations, Program

#### Napa County

Communications & External Relations

#### Petaluma

Communications & External Relations

#### Healdsburg

Advancement



## 2020 State Project Grant Awards

## PROJECT GRANTS

Carol Holzgrafe, Chair  
Project Oversight Committee  
[oc@aauw-ca.org](mailto:oc@aauw-ca.org)

Every year the Project Oversight Committee selects two branch and/or affiliate projects to receive monetary support. This year the committee awarded \$500 to **Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista's** "GovTrek" – a 6-month immersion course in "How Politics Really Works." It is designed to introduce high school women to careers in public service. A second \$500 grant went to **Mariposa's** "Tech Connect: Multi-Media Messages" – a technology-based version of the Speech Trek competition. This encourages high school students to develop and present multimedia productions based on Speech Trek themes. More details about these and the three other nominated projects this year will be posted soon.

Three more branches also submitted proposals. **Alhambra-San Gabriel** proposed "Make Your 30 Seconds Count" about first impressions for job search, social situations. **North Tahoe** submitted a request for second year funding for "Women Solving Medical Mysteries and Exploring Space," a STEM Trek day presented by four area branches. **Saddleback College** proposed "Don't Ghost your Vote," an all-day voter registration drive at Saddleback College encouraging more students to vote.

## JOB WELL DONE CALIFORNIA BRANCHES!

Dianne Owens, Chair  
AAUW Fund Committee  
[aauwfunds@aauw-ca.org](mailto:aauwfunds@aauw-ca.org)

California branches contributed \$500,571 to the AAUW Fund in 2019! Every donation has a lasting impact, but here we recognize the top contributing branches:

### TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS—TOP BRANCHES

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Marin                       | \$37,206 |
| 2. Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek | 33,889   |
| 3. Morgan Hill                 | 21,673   |
| 4. Hayward-Castro Valley       | 14,436   |
| 5. Roseville-South Placer      | 14,302   |
| 6. Napa County                 | 11,157   |
| 7. Healdsburg                  | 10,737   |
| 8. Redding                     | 10,653   |
| 9. Nevada County               | 10,380   |
| 10. San Jose                   | 9,870    |

### PER CAPITA—TOP BRANCHES

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Calaveras County            | \$366.00 |
| 2. Berkeley                    | 349.58   |
| 3. Marin                       | 225.49   |
| 4. Woodland                    | 170.77   |
| 5. Hayward-Castro Valley       | 142.93   |
| 6. Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek | 138.32   |
| 7. Concord                     | 135.91   |
| 8. Morgan Hill                 | 126.00   |
| 9. San Francisco               | 125.41   |
| 10. San Diego                  | 112.64   |
| 11. West Contra Costa          | 99.17    |

Two Honorary Funds were announced in honor of outgoing Co-Presidents, Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier at the April 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: the Catherine M. Foxhoven Honorary Fund (#4484) and the Jane J. Niemeier Honorary Fund (#4485).

Thank you, Jane and Cathy, for your leadership!

## KNOWING YOUR DESTINATION IS KEY EXPECT DETOURS!

Elaine Johnson, Chair  
Leadership Development Committee  
[leaderdev@aauw-ca.org](mailto:leaderdev@aauw-ca.org)

The Leadership Development Committee had mapped out plans for leadership development days across the state. Unfortunately, while our destination is still clear, our usual path is closed so we need to take a different route. We are shifting to online meetings for a while. This is an opportunity for all of us to learn new skills and explore new technologies to connect with each other in new and robust ways. We may need to upgrade our computers or expand our internet bandwidth.

**Destination:** Progress is not always linear. Getting to the destination and accomplishing our mission are what matter.

**Strategic Plan:** The statewide leadership team continues to develop a strategic plan that reflects the goals of AAUW California and aligns with AAUW National's goals.

**Needs:** This is a good time to assess your branch's leadership needs. It is also time to identify strengths that members and partners can provide.

**Available Resources:** Once you and your branch are comfortable with online access, the resources available to you are abundant and very user-friendly.

**Stay Tuned:** By staying connected, we will be able to discover the best route to our desired destination.

## WE ARE ALL SIP-ING

Sharyn Siebert, Director  
Branch Support  
[branch@aauw-ca.org](mailto:branch@aauw-ca.org)

All AAUW California branches are experiencing huge disruptions during this trying time. I am so proud of all of our leadership, working out how to hold elections and stay in touch with members as we shelter in place (SIP). The challenge of getting membership renewals and all these other issues have created headaches. But you have stepped up and learned new techniques, using resources some of you had never even heard about before.

During all of this, I have heard from many branches and hope that I have helped you through these unusual times. The value of our AAUW California board to all of our branches and members should be evident by virtue of the responses we have all given to your multitude of varied questions, either via email or phone.

COVID-19 and its effects have made AAUW's mission even more evident and crucial. Let's stay the course, and we can hope to be SIP-ping wine together in the near future -- instead of our current situation!



## CALIFORNIA TECH TREK IN A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

Alice Hill & Susan Negrete  
Tech Trek Co-Coordinators  
[techtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-ca.org)

There is no doubt that 2020 has been the most disappointing year that the California Tech Trek Program has ever faced. We have enjoyed an extremely successful and growth-oriented 20-plus years, with welcoming campus affiliates, creative camp designs, and dedicated staff and volunteers. However, right in the middle of 2020 camp preparations, the national coronavirus pandemic resulted in the cancellation of all seven camps that were scheduled throughout the state.

Selected seventh-grade girls were disappointed to learn that there would be no camp experience in their future, and our branch members were terribly upset to notify girls and parents that our 2020 season would not happen. Camp leaders were saddened to accept the necessary decisions – but it hurt.

While everyone understood that the cancellation decision was out of our hands due to government health mandates and campus requirements, that recognition



did not ease our pain. The safety and well-being of our campers and volunteers have always been our priority. There was no argument with the decision, just more awareness that this pandemic changed everything.

The California Tech Trek leadership team's response has been: pivot, plan and persevere!

This time will be used to stay nimble, retool our processes, be strategic, refresh and enhance our game, and prepare for a powerful Tech Trek future. We will be working with the camp leaders and thinking about 2021

– and beyond.

A key priority will be communicating with our branches to share ideas and resources for ways to honor the 2020 selected students. As always, they represent the California Tech Trek Program! Continue to watch for our communications and don't hesitate to contact us with the important news of how your branch is honoring the selected students: [techtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-ca.org). We are grateful to the AAUW membership for your dedication and support of Tech Trek!

## SPEECH TREK ANNOUNCES 2020 WINNERS, NEW TOPIC FOR 2021, AND BONUS!

Marlene Cain, Chair  
AAUW California Speech Trek  
[speechtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:speechtrek@aauw-ca.org)

It's official! Congratulations to the following branches and contestants who placed in the 2020 State Finals, speaking on "Are Men and Women Truly Equal Today, or are the Suffragists of 1920 Still Suffering in 2020?"

They are:

|                            |                       |                           |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Morgan Hill                | <b>Gelasia Tiwana</b> | 5 <sup>th</sup> (\$150)   |
| California Online          | <b>Namita Shyam</b>   | 4 <sup>th</sup> (\$250)   |
| Foothills of El Dorado Co. | <b>Carter Hill</b>    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> (\$500)   |
| Stockton                   | <b>Jackson Patten</b> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> (\$1,000) |
| Lompoc-Vandenberg          | <b>Olivia Berman</b>  | 1 <sup>st</sup> (\$1,500) |

The winning speeches may be enjoyed by clicking on the contestant's name above or on the AAUW California website [HERE](#).

**NEW TOPIC FOR 2021!** Dr. Mary Pipher, clinical psychologist, has described social media as the "huge, unplanned experiment" that has left many young people (and adults, too) vulnerable to the ups and downs of digital culture.

**Our topic for next year is, "Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?"**

Branches are buzzing with excitement about the new topic. Inquiries are already being received regarding potential alternatives to live audiences, and AAUW California is exploring ways to conduct virtual contests, if necessary.



Olivia Berman

If you are looking for a mission-based program that is fun, boosts visibility and builds membership--and your branch can spare \$25.00--don't wait! Plan to participate in Speech Trek 2020-2021, AAUW California's high impact, low cost high school program!

The 2020-2021 Branch Tool Kit and the 2020-2021 Student Tool Kit will be published this summer

on the AAUW California website, and will contain additional information on this topic, the 2020-2021 MOU (required in order for your branch to participate), and Policy and Procedures updates. The deadline to submit the MOU is November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**BONUS!** Is this your first time hosting Speech Trek? Have questions? AAUW California Speech Trek can Zoom into your branch to help you get started! You may also contact AAUW California Speech Trek Chair Marlene Cain directly at (909) 866-2819 or at [speechtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:speechtrek@aauw-ca.org) with "speech trek 2021" in the subject line.



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BY JOINING AAUW, YOU  
BELONG TO A COMMUNITY  
THAT BREAKS THROUGH  
EDUCATIONAL AND  
ECONOMIC BARRIERS SO  
THAT ALL WOMEN AND  
GIRLS HAVE A FAIR CHANCE.

AAUW CALIFORNIA'S  
ELECTED AND APPOINTED  
LEADERS ARE WORKING  
TOGETHER TO DELIVER ON  
THE AAUW VALUE PROMISE.  
PLEASE JOIN WITH US -- THE  
PREMIER ORGANIZATION IN  
CALIFORNIA FOR WOMEN.

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