



**May 2021**

**Hi.**

**It's spring. Have you washed your windows yet?**

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to 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



Did you miss the AAUW California Annual Meeting? Were you washing your windows? Tell the truth. If you were doing something else, like planting asparagus or rehearsing for a community production of “Mamma Mia,” you can still see all the glorious moments of our year-in-review. Check out the [recording](#).



“The Academy” awarded Oscars in 24 categories!! Pshaw. Not impressed. We came close to that at our own Annual Meeting. We honored former Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson with our “2021 Equity Champion Award” and Harriet Tower as our 2020 State Named Gift

Honoree, selected the Speech Trek winner, and gave tribute to the memories of longtime supporters Jo Harberson and Jim Doty. None of the awards presenters wore semi-transparent mermaid gowns weighted down with 875 lbs. of sequins and trains stretching to the parking lot. At least, we don't think so. After all, it was on Zoom.



DEI? Intersectionality? Implicit bias? Allyship? Yikes. Will these be on the test? If you aren't sure what all these weighty words mean, AAUW's [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Toolkit](#) defines them. It also includes suggestions for how you and your branch can begin to talk about them. It's important stuff that we cannot joke about (or, to be correct, about which we cannot joke).



## Things to Do



Alert! The AAUW Webinar Early Warning System released vital details on two upcoming earthshaking presentations for June. Forewarned is forearmed. Pack your Zoom emergency bag with the recommended supply of beverages and chocolate.



### 6/2/2021

“The Care and Feeding of Volunteers” Explore ways to recruit, empower, thank, and more importantly, keep the modern volunteer and future branch leader.

### 6/7/2021

“How to Be a Branch Treasurer” The title says it all. Nuts and bolts information for new and seasoned treasurers as well as other branch leaders. Finance is everyone's responsibility.

Register [HERE](#)

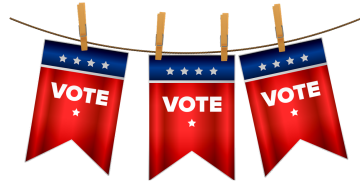
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Fancy yourself the creative type yet your artwork looks like [Koopa the Turtle's](#)? Try the free easy animation tool on [Doodly.com](#) to create a video "sketch" about um, let's say, AAUW? Think marketing. Check out the fun short [one](#) we made for the Annual Meeting to highlight the state's accomplishments. This is, of course, a shameless way to get you to actually SEE the state's accomplishments.



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Nag, nag, nag. Have you voted? The national election closes May 17th. On the ballot is the critical decision to remove the degree requirement for AAUW membership. Your state board supports this forward-thinking proposal. Check out our reasons [here](#). Please put down your book/iPad/potato peeler/lightsaber and find your April 7th email from National with voting instructions.



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We'll see you next month, when we will share election results and possibly the top ten reasons why your windows still have streaks.



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. [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.



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