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April 2022

The Board to Board (B2B) is a monthly e-newsletter to branch boards and leaders from the AAUW California Board of Directors. We ask you to click on the links for more information and to share appropriate items with your branch, especially in your branch newsletter. Some branches have members on your board who are not on the B2B mailing list. You can click [HERE](#), enter the password (aauwca) then scroll down to your branch. The branch officers listed in the state directory are the only ones on the B2B mailing list.

FROM DIANNE'S DESK...

Dianne Owens, President, AAUW California, statepresident@aauw-ca.org

APRIL 2022 = ACTION

The old saying “April showers bring May flowers” may be true, but April also brings ACTION for our AAUW California members:

- During Lobby Week, April 11–15, we will meet with our state representatives and persuade them to support AAUW’s key bills for this year. I hope you have signed up to help with this important work.
- Please don’t miss our AAUW Annual Event, “*Adventures in AAUWLand*” on Saturday, April 30th. Read all about it [HERE](#) Don’t forget to register. It is virtual and it is free!

WHAT IS HAPPENING In Washington, D.C.?

- Our CEO, Gloria Blackwell, continues to be invited to many events and meets regularly with other non-profit leaders that support our mission. She is committed to letting the world know about AAUW.
- AAUW continues the effort to support the Supreme Court appointment of Judge Katanji Brown Jackson.
- Members who donate \$5,000/yr or more will be honored at a *Champions for Women and Girls* event on April 13th.
- There have been two AAUW training sessions to help members navigate the new Community Hub. Links to the two will be available soon. To get started you can click [HERE](#) for instructions and several tutorials. For further help or questions contact connect@aauw.org.

Thought for April:

“Organizations thrive when our people can see tomorrow as better than today because they are making it better.”
Christopher Novak, *Conquering Adversity*

Be bold, brave and brilliant,

Dianne

AAUW FUND

Lynne Batchelor, Secretary, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aaufund@aauw-ca.org

Thank you to everyone for your tremendous efforts this year to raise money for AAUW Fund and congratulations on the wonderful results of just over \$494,000 contributed by California individuals and branches. The Top Ten branches in total contributions, the Top Ten branches in per capita contributions, and our State Named Gift Honoree will be revealed at the Annual Event, so be sure to register and get in on the excitement!

What I need to know: AAUW California members contributed over \$494,000 to AAUW Fund.

What I need to do: Attend the Annual Event to learn which branches were in the Top Ten for total and per capita contributions.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, if you haven't shared the good news that over \$494,000 was contributed by California members and branches.

ANNUAL EVENT

Charmen Goehring, Meetings Planner, meetings@aauw-ca.org

GRAB YOUR COMPASSES, WE ARE OFF TO AAUWLAND!

It's almost time for our *Adventures in AAUWLand* and we invite you to come along! On Saturday, April 30, 2022, we will gather on Zoom for a virtual event celebrating our AAUW branches, listening to inspiring speakers, and crowning a 2022 Speech Trek winner! Tour guides (hosts) will lead conversations about a range of topics related to AAUW and our mission in Zoom breakout rooms. Here you will be able to share your opinions with others, learn something new, and connect with AAUW friends across the state.

What I need to know: The Annual Event will be held on April 30th.

What I need to do: Make your reservation.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, make sure your members know about the Annual Event and how to make a reservation.

Click [HERE](#) soon for more information and to reserve your space for our expedition. The best thing is that this journey is free! See you soon!

BRANCH AND MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE

Carol Holzgrafe, Director, branch@aauw-ca.org

BRANCHING WITH THE STARS – WHAT’S NEW?

AAUW National just announced that the Mid-Peninsula Branch (that’s south of San Francisco) has earned stars. While they did not say how many, Mid-Peninsula earned all five last year; we expect they will do the same again.

It’s not too late to start earning your own branch stars. The deadline for submission is June 30th. Five-Star requirements encourage the healthy branch practices of succession and community involvement while adhering to AAUW’s mission, proper use of social media, and public advocacy. It’s a fine way to boost member enthusiasm for AAUW and your branch. And who doesn’t want to do that? Click [HERE](#) for the Five-Star National Recognition Program criteria, submission details, and more.

Do check out the list for categories and requirements. You don’t need to do them all. Mostly you can just check off what you have already done with programs, donations, membership, etc. And, if you don’t have a branch [strategic plan](#), you should make one – they can be enormously useful with branch planning, organization, and succession.

Click [HERE](#) to download AAUW California’s Excel Five-Star spreadsheet – a first-rate organizing tool to help you track your stars.

MANAGING MEMBERSHIPS WITH THE COMMUNITY HUB

The long wait is over: the Community Hub has arrived - mostly - replacing the old Member Services Database (MSD). All members will need to reset their password. Click [HERE](#) to go to the AAUW National website. To access your account, click the “Log In” at the top right corner of the home page. **The first time you log in, you’ll need to reset your password by clicking the “Forgot Password” link.** From there you will be directed to your "Personal Snapshot". Do try it. Click [HERE](#) for instructions and several tutorials on how to set up your Personal Snapshot, the new term for your personal AAUW portal. (As a current member, you don't need to be concerned about the information in the video on how to add new members.)

Once in your Personal Snapshot, you can click on the various links on the left side and add any appropriate information. Check "My Payment Methods" if you

What I need to know: The new Community Hub member database (replacing the MSD) has a lot of functionality for members and branch leaders.

What I need to do: Click [HERE](#) for a video tutorial on using the new database and watch for the recordings of training webinars to be posted on the national website. Consider some training at a branch meeting.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, include the instructions for logging in and provide them with the link to watch the video tutorial.

want to pay your dues by either your bank account or your credit card. Look for the 3 dots to the right of each subject to see more options. This is also where you will renew your membership when notified that the renewal process is open and is also the place where you can make donations.

President/administrators, membership VPs, and finance officers all have the same rights in the Community Hub, giving these members the flexibility to share with dues and donation processing, updating contact information for members, updating officers (the Branch Officer Report), and requesting AAUW to file with the IRS. Details about "batch renewing" will come later.

OH, AND SHAPE THE FUTURE CONTINUES

You can work that through the new Hub. And, yes, national dues will be \$67 for the 2022-23 year, a rise of \$5. Still a bargain.

** One more thing: if you or a branch member submitted an application for the 50-year Honorary Membership but have not heard back, re-send the application to connect@aauw.org and include the original date of submission and, perhaps a deadline after which you plan to celebrate the member. Please let me know of any "issues" with these applications. The national office has been swamped but has added staff to help. So, let's give them another chance.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Elaine Johnson, Director and Janice Lee, DEI Committee Co-Chairs diversity@aauw-ca.org

USING DEI RESOURCES FOR BRANCH PROGRAMS

Overwhelming! That is the feeling expressed by the extensive abundance of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) resources available for branches to use in the [DEI Toolkit](#). The AAUW California website now has an [overview slide set](#) and an [equity lens](#) handout found under Branch Tools. Many more resources are found on the AAUW National website. With so many choices, where should branches begin?

Since every branch is unique, there are different approaches to include DEI. Here are some of the most common ideas shared by branches.

What I need to know: There are many DEI resources available to the branches.

What I need to do: Appoint a DEI Coordinator and notify webteam@aauw-ca.org of your appointment.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, encourage discussions about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

- Have members take the [Harvard Implicit Association Tests](#).
- Show the “[Starts With I](#)” YouTube video and discuss what inclusion means.
- Include DEI books in book clubs.
- Use [Plug & Play Programming](#) from the National DEI Toolkit.
- Provide [Key Terms & Concepts](#) handout from the AAUW National DEI Toolkit.
- Discuss DEI webinars

Every branch is encouraged to have a DEI Coordinator. This individual should have a passion for DEI and a willingness to share ideas with other branch members and community organizations. Branches need to inform our AAUW California Leadership Team with the name and contact information for this DEI Coordinator by sending an email to webteam@aauw-ca.org.

Plan to attend a DEI breakout session at the AAUW Land Event on April 30th. This Zoom meeting is a perfect place to have conversations about DEI and share success stories.

DEI is about recognizing and valuing our differences.

The DEI Committee has made presentations to IBCs across the state for further distribution to regional branches.

FINANCE

Roli Wendorf, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Committee Chair, cfo@aauw-ca.org

AAUW Community Hub Update

As many of you already know, AAUW National has transitioned from the old Member Services Database (MSD) system to the new Community Hub, but all the pieces are not in place yet. You can log in and set up your account but the member rosters and branch management functionality will be phased in soon. (See more about the Community Hub in the Branch Assistance article.)

What I need to know: The new Community Hub database is still being phased in. National is hosting regular office hours to address branch questions.

What I need to do: Start your renewal process later this year. Register for AAUW office hours to have your questions answered directly.

Office Hours

Many of you are frustrated that your queries to connect@aauw.org are not receiving timely responses. National’s membership staff is holding

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this information is for branch leaders only.

weekly office hours by Zoom every Thursday at 12:30 pm PDT. These Zoom meetings are an excellent way of getting your questions answered. You can always register for an upcoming session [HERE](#).

Membership Processing

Branches are advised to start their membership renewal process later this year than usual. We are told that the new system will become fully functional in April. Branches can still continue with their Shape the Future events as planned by saving new member information on paper forms for now and processing the dues later.

MARKETING - RETIREMENT AGE RECRUITMENT

Sharyn Siebert, Director. mktg-rar@aauw-ca.org

TREASURE HUNT

Recruitment and retention of branch members have been the focus of this committee for the past fiscal year. We urge you to view the webinars referenced below for valuable ideas and suggestions for branches.

In addition, we would like to suggest one new idea, which is to have a dedicated external communications committee. Their job would be to post to social media (you could even hire an intern to do so as we at AAUW California have done), maintain your website, and get publicity out to all local venues: newspapers, radio stations, TV stations, and websites such as Next Door and Patch. How will they find you and join if people don't know that your branch exists and what you do?

Here are a few links to appropriate webinars that you can watch to provide other suggestions.

Webinars from AAUW National:

Click [HERE](#) for several prior webinars.
Click [HERE](#) for the *Recruitment, Retention, and Fundraising in the COVID Era and Beyond*.
Click [HERE](#) for the *Working Together to Build a Diverse and Inclusive AAUW*.

Webinars from AAUW California:

Click [HERE](#) for the January 11th *Finding New Members from Gen Z to Boomers!*

What I need to know: Previously recorded webinars from state and national are a good source of information on recruitment and retention.

What I need to do: Review the suggested webinars. Consider sharing them at a board meeting.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this information is for branch leaders only.

Click [HERE](#) for the October 12th *Beyond the Newsletter*.

MARKETING - UNIVERSITY AND ORGANIZATION COLLABORATION

Michelle Miller-Galaz, Director, and Donna Lilly, University and Organization Collaboration Co-Chairs mktg-uoc@aauw-ca.org

BECOME A VOLUNTEER START SMART OR WORK SMART FACILITATOR

Are you committed to pay equity? Become a certified AAUW salary negotiation volunteer facilitator!

AAUW depends on people like you to help empower thousands of women annually to negotiate their salaries and benefits. Join the AAUW team of skilled volunteer facilitators to further your leadership development, gain public speaking experience, and sharpen your own negotiation skills and expertise.

AAUW National provides the tools, resources, and materials to help you become a successful facilitator.

Email Salary@aauw.org to determine if you are eligible for this training. If so, you will receive an access code to register online. If you are a licensed AAUW campus or Work Smart partner, please provide the name(s) and email addresses of prospective volunteer facilitator(s) to the AAUW National office at connect@aauw.org.

Once you have registered for the Volunteer Facilitator Training, allow up to seven business days for enrollment.

The interactive training gives a deeper understanding of the workshop curricula and bolsters facilitation skills. Participants have 60 days from the enrollment date to complete the training. When the training is complete, AAUW and the licensed partners will reach out to you when there are upcoming volunteer opportunities in your area and provide access to the workshop materials upon confirmation of your volunteer schedule.

For questions on renewing your facilitator certification, contact AAUW National via email at Salary@aauw.org.

What I need to know: Volunteer facilitators are needed to conduct Start Smart and Work Smart workshops to help women negotiate their salaries and benefits. Training and materials are provided.

What I need to do: Contact Salary@aauw.org to learn more.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, your members may want to be trained as a facilitator.

PUBLIC POLICY

Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

AAUW CA SPONSORS CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION

Guided by our member-approved Public Policy Priorities for 2021-2023, the AAUW California Public Policy Committee has selected the bills that we will be supporting as they move through the 2022 Session of the California Legislature. Here are the six highest priority bills:

- AB 92—creates an equitable sliding scale for family fees to alleviate the burden on working families struggling to pay for childcare and early childhood education services. Co-sponsor
- AB 1666—enables persons to come from outside California for abortions and not be impacted by laws of other states. Co-sponsor
- AB 1968—mandates the creation of websites at CSU/UC campuses to assist sexual assault survivors.
- AB 2881—Student parents get priority enrollment, registration, and access to basic needs centers, enabling them to remain in California colleges.
- SB 523—Expands contraceptive coverage by requiring health plans to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing.
- SB 1375—updates statutes relating to abortion care to allow nurse practitioners to practice under standard protocols to provide first-trimester abortion care.

Within our Public Policy Priorities, six bills are related to Economic Security for All Women, seven are related to Equal Access to Public Education, and 18 are related to Social and Racial Justice for all Members of Society.

AAUW California is experiencing greater visibility among elected legislators by sponsoring/co-sponsoring bills.

The Public Policy Committee members spent many hours in March researching bills, and in discussions over two days, to select bills to support. AAUW members are working to improve the lives of women and children in California!

What I need to know: The Public Policy Committee has selected six bills aligned with our priorities to support in the California legislature session.

What I need to do: Review the bills above to learn more.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members should be aware of the specific bills that AAUW California supports.

SPEECH TREK

Marlene Cain, Speech Trek Program Director, spechtrek@aauw-ca.org

SPEECH TREK UPDATE: SEMI-FINALS UNDERWAY!



AAUW California
Speech Trek

Answer: Alhambra, Big Bear Valley, California Online, Camarillo, Del Mar Leucadia, Diamond Bar-Walnut, Fremont, La Mesa-El Cajon, Poway Pensaquitos, Redlands, Sacramento, Stockton, and Thousand Oaks.

Question: Can you name 13 inspirational AAUW California branches?

Why inspirational? Because despite an extremely challenging year, these branches persevered and hosted Speech Trek 2022. Whether virtual or in-person, these amazing branches led the way for high school students to share their thoughts on a provocative and timely topic.

“I loved, loved this topic,” enthused Dr. Mary Suzuki, Superintendent, Bear Valley Unified School District.

“I loved this topic,” said Cathy Trevino, Co-President, Camarillo Branch. Camarillo is a recent addition to the Speech Trek family and is adding this program to their impressive portfolio of projects, including the annual “Knowledge Bowl,” another experience for high school students.

What happens next:

- Semi-finals are underway.
- The top five contestants will be identified.
- The top three contestants will advance to the finals.
- The three finalists’ videos will be showcased at the April 30th virtual event—a real adventure! Click [HERE](#) to register for the 2022 Annual Event.

What I need to know: 13 branches hosted Speech Trek competitions, either in-person or virtually.

What I need to do: Attend the Annual Event to learn the speech topic for next year.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, encourage members to register for the Annual Event in order to see the finalists’ inspirational videos and learn the winner.

- First, second, and third-place winners will be announced at the conclusion of the April 30th event.

Has the United States lived up to its pledge of liberty and justice for all? Would requiring the study of diversity, equity and inclusion in a high school setting help ensure liberty and justice for all?

Find out on April 30th!

TECH TREK

Karen Manelis, Tech Trek Program Director, techtrek@aauw-ca.org and **Susan Steckclair**, Tech Trek Financial Liaison, techtrek-finance@aauw-ca.org

TECH TREK UPDATE

Branches are in the final phase of the camper selection process – interviewing and making choices.

All camper information must be entered into the REDCap online system by April 15th. Contact techtrek-tech@aauw-ca.org if you have questions.

Implementation of the CampSite camp management software platform selected for AAUW California Tech Trek is well underway. Tech Trek Committee member Lisa Barney, is serving as project manager.

Financial Note: Send your camper fees to the camp your campers will attend. If you have already sent fees to your home camp, the funds will be reconciled with transfers later this summer. You do not need to take any action.

Continue to send checks for donations, grants, etc. to your home camp treasurer, even if the camp is closed, the camp treasurers are still processing these deposits.

The first camp (Fresno) is just 10 weeks away!

What I need to know: Tech Trek is on track with camper selections nearly completed.

What I need to do: Be sure your Tech Trek Coordinator is aware of the April 15th deadline to submit camper selections.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? No, this information is for Tech Trek and branch leaders only.