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September 2022

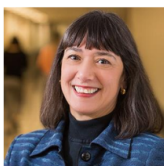
Today's quiz: Which is hotter?

- ☐ The surface of the sun
- ☐ Your house this week



Dear Randa,
Welcome to the *California Connection*, the monthly missive sent to every member from your state organization for a quick read of things to know and do in AAUW!

Things to Know



Dr. Monica Bertagnolli



Cathy Foxhoven

Local girl makes good! We hate to name-drop, but, of course, we will. Dr. Monica Bertagnolli, who was just named the [FIRST woman director](#) (what a triumph!) of the National Cancer Institute, is the niece of our very own former AAUW California co-president and chief equity cheerleader, Cathy Foxhoven. We can only

conclude that it must be in the genes. Well, . . . that plus they have the same hairstyle.



AAUW? Huh? We admit sometimes people don't know who we are. There have been reports of confusion with another organization starting with the same two letters. So we need all the good press we can get, starting with this [article](#) about Tech Trek in the *Los Altos Town Crier* newspaper. Sure, it's a small paper, but a circulation size of 16,500 means 16,500 more people in California who know what we do. And that's not even counting how many people read it at Starbucks®. There's more good press [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). All told, AAUW was mentioned in 18 national and international media in only three days in August. That might be more often than the words "heat wave." On second thought . . . maybe not.



We have a topic for our speech contest. And it's a goodie. High school students will be grappling (isn't that a funny-sounding word?) with the question: *How can communities, organizations, and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights?* See? We said it was good. They will have approximately five minutes to deliver an original speech and a chance to win \$1500 if they make it to the state finals. You can be an armchair judge when they pontificate (also funny-sounding) at our Annual Event in April. Now, aren't you glad you learned the definition of "elocution" for the SAT exam?

Things to Do

If your last Facebook post was an unflattering close-up from your 2014 mule ride at the Grand Canyon, we're here to save you AND help educate voters on critical upcoming election issues. Over the next several weeks, the Public Policy Committee will send you ready-made, great-looking, action-oriented election messages for your social media accounts. All you have to do is follow the simple instructions to post and share



them. You don't need to understand programming language, binary numbers, the Linnaean taxonomy system, or even those hashtag thingies.

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When it rains it pours. You might think we should remove that sardonic phrase (oh look, another SAT word!) from our vocabulary these days, but in this case, it's not droplets we're talking about. We have a downpour of 39 (!) California fellowship and grant recipients who will share their stories at four virtual AAUW Fund events in October and November. See what, and who, your AAUW Fund dollars support and learn a bit about their work on sustainable environments, global migration, refugee studies, and 36 other topics that will make you sound smart(er). Register [HERE](#).



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We thought we'd remind you that AAUW California does more than just send you emails. Find out what your state organization does to help you and your branch carry out AAUW's work at a virtual Town Hall on Sunday, September 11th, at 3 pm. Meet your state leaders. Get a sneak preview of their plans for the coming year. See if they mispronounce anything. Unlike the temperature outside, it won't be a bunch of hot air. Register [HERE](#).

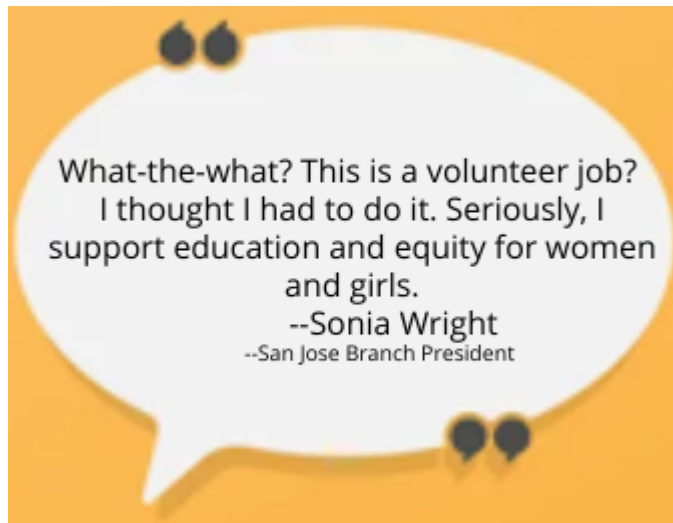


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Leaning into Leadership

Last month we asked you to tell us why you became a leader in your branch.
And some of you did!

It made us feel like Sally Field when she [accepted the Oscar](#) in 1985.
We'll be sharing answers like this over the next few months:



Did you forget? Feel free to send one or two (no more!) sentences to cc@aauw-ca.org and answer the question:

Becoming a leader: why'd ya do it?

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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.

www.aauw-ca.org



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